

**Funded Study:** Treatment of feline oral squamous cell carcinoma (OSCC).

**Study Title:** Intratumoral bio-adhesive nanoparticles (BNP) containing chemotherapy for cytorreduction of oral squamous cell carcinoma in pet cats

**Purpose of Study/Background/Objectives:** The purpose of this study is to evaluate the safety and efficacy of a new intratumorally injected anti-cancer treatment in cats with measurable, primarily soft tissue oral squamous cell carcinoma. The treatment is a novel drug delivery platform using nanoparticles containing a chemotherapy agent (Exatecan) that stays within the injected tumor and caused death of cancer cells locally, and also minimizes the risks for systemic toxicity.

**Inclusion Criteria:**

- Cats > 1 year old
- Predominant soft tissue oral OSCC (preferred under tongue, on lip or gum line)
- Histologic or cytologic confirmation of oral squamous cell carcinoma
- Must be in good condition and not have other serious illnesses

**Exclusion Criteria:**

- Previous chemotherapy, radiation therapy or immunotherapy
- Untreated comorbid conditions
- Poor anesthetic candidate for any reason

**Eligibility Diagnostics:**

- CBC, Chemistry Panel, U/A
- Cytologic or histopathologic diagnosis

**Treatment/Protocol:** Pet cats will receive intratumoral injections of bio-adhesive nanoparticles containing Exatecan every 3 weeks for up to 4 treatments. If deriving clinical benefit from therapy, pet cats will be enrolled for a total of 84 days (inclusive of treatment and response monitoring) to reach study completion. All pet cats will be evaluated with physical exams, blood work, MRI under anesthesia and tumor sampling at scheduled timepoints throughout the trial. These tests will be used to assess the safety and anticancer activities of intratumoral BNP in pet cats at the time of recheck appointments.

**Compensation:** Following enrollment, pet owners will be responsible for supportive medications (pain medications, SQ fluids) if needed. The clinical trial will cover the cost of feeding tube placement, recheck bloodwork, intratumoral injections, biopsy and MRI under anesthesia. In the event of adverse events, partial funding to cover expenses associated with medical care will be made available if supportive treatment is pursued at the University of Illinois. Pet owners are responsible for treatment of unrelated medical conditions.

**Contact Information:** Please feel free to contact our Clinical Trials Coordinator, Rebecca Kameron, at (217) 300-6453 or [rmoss81@illinois.edu](mailto:rmoss81@illinois.edu) to refer a patient or for any additional information. Referring veterinarians and client calls are welcome.