MICROBIOME AND FECAL METABOLOME OF DOGS UNDERGOING CHEMOTHERAPY AS TREATMENT FOR NEOPLASTIC DISEASE

Thank you for your interest in our clinical study. The aim of this study is to evaluate the changes in gut health during cancer treatment.

What are clinical trials?
Clinical trials are research studies. They are used in all areas of medicine to evaluate new types of treatment, prevention, diets and diet intervention and are used to determine how effective a particular treatment or diet may be. It is your decision whether or not you want your pet to participate in a clinical trial. You may discuss your pet’s participation with your family and your pet’s veterinarian. If you have any questions, please ask your pet’s clinician with the Clinical Trials team for additional information.

Why is this clinical trial being conducted?
Many people and dogs suffer from gastrointestinal disease while undergoing cancer treatment. We know that the microbial flora is tightly linked to health and disease; therefore our goal is to characterize these changes in order to find new solutions for this problem.

Which patients are eligible to participate in this clinical trial?
This study is available to dogs who are diagnosed with cancer and will be receiving a chemotherapy protocol using specific anti-cancer drugs (such as the CHOP protocol). Dogs must also be otherwise healthy and without other major systemic diseases as determined by the primary clinician and lab results. If your dog takes any prescription medications or supplements, please discuss these with your clinician prior to enrolling in this study as this may affect the ability of your pet to participate in the study.

What will happen if my pet participates in this clinical trial?
The decision on the most appropriate treatment is unaffected by this clinical trial. Owners of enrolled study participants will complete a diet history form and provide informed consent prior to the beginning of the study. All dogs will be asked to provide two fresh fecal samples (ideally from two consecutive days) before they start treatment, 14 days after the first treatment, and 30 days after the treatment course is completed. Samples will need to be provided on the same day. All participating owners will be required to fill out a questionnaire regarding their dog’s diet and any signs of illness that may be witnessed.

What incentives will CSU provide for my pet’s participation?
This study does not offer incentives for participation.
What are my responsibilities during the clinical trial?
For the study, we require that you provide the stool samples as describe above and answer a short questionnaire about your dog’s health in each week. These questionnaires will be handed-in on the last visit.

Questions?
Please do not hesitate to obtain additional information for your clinician if you do not understand something about the study or your pet’s care.

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