UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine

Here at UC Davis, we’re working hard to find better ways to diagnose and manage the cancers that plague beloved pets. To treat cancer in animals, we use many of the same methods available in human medicine, including surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation therapy. With their investigations into new methods of diagnosis and treatment, colleges of veterinary medicine are leading the way in the field of veterinary clinical oncology research. Patients who enter clinical trials are closely monitored and receive individualized attention.

Many types of cancer that occur in pets closely resemble cancers that occur in humans. Studying these diseases in pet animals not only helps the animals—it can expand researchers’ abilities to study and treat cancer in humans as well.

SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
Oncology/Radiation Oncology

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Make a Donation to the Comparative Cancer Center today!

Cancer Clinical Trials at UC Davis
Clinical Research Studies
ONCOLOGY

The Oncology Service handles all aspects of the diagnosis and treatment of cancer. We are also dedicated to the teaching of veterinary students, the continuing educations of veterinarians, and the advancement of cancer therapy through basic science research and clinical trials of new cancer therapies. Additionally, being part of a teaching hospital means that we have access to many specialists in other disciplines, and to advanced technologies such as computerized treatment planning for radiation therapy as well as state-of-the-art imaging.

Clinical Service is our most important day to day activity at the CCC. We strive to provide the best care and most effective treatments possible for our patients while always remembering that maintaining their quality of life is paramount. We also strive to educate you so that together we can come up with the best treatment plan possible.

CLINICAL TRIALS

What Are Clinical Trials?
Clinical trials are research studies devoted to discovering better ways to diagnose disease and new and promising disease therapies.

They are scientific experiments designed to answer specific clinical questions, including:

• Does the new or experimental treatment have a therapeutic effect on the pet’s disease?
• Can a new test better diagnose cancer or predict how a patient will respond to treatment?
• Is the new or experimental treatment better than the current standard therapy?
• Is the procedure or treatment well tolerated?

How Can My Pet Get Involved in a Clinical Trial?
Once your pet has received a diagnosis, you can make an appointment with the Oncology Department to discuss the treatment options available to your pet. If there is a particular trial going on, and your pet is eligible, you can talk to our clinical trials coordinator to set up a follow-up appointment.

Do Clinical Trials Cover the Cost of Treatment?
Depending on how a particular clinical trial is being funded, all or part of your pet’s treatment costs may be covered.

WHY CONDUCT CLINICAL TRIALS?
Clinical trials are often conducted to improve the health of pets, and to discover new, safe, and effective methods of treating and diagnosing disease. Many diseases have no good therapies, or respond only partially to current medications or procedures, and these trials can also help provide cutting edge experimental treatments that may be more effective than the traditional treatment options.

Some trials are organized through our doctors, and some are offered through our partnership with the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and their Comparative Oncology Program. The Comparative Oncology Program studies cancer and uses this information to develop future therapies for cancer in both companion animals and humans.

Cancers we are currently investigating include:
• Lymphoma
• Osteosarcoma
• Melanoma
• Mast Cell Tumors
• Soft Tissue Sarcomas