Current Veterinary Clinical Trials

OSTEOSARCOMA

■ Background

• Standard therapy for dogs diagnosed with osteosarcoma has long been amputation of the affected limb followed by chemotherapy to delay the spread of cancer. With this form of treatment, median survival times for dogs diagnosed with appendicular osteosarcoma is about 10 to 12 months with little improvement in outcome occurring over the past two decades. Rapamycin is a drug that potentially can inhibit an important pathway in cancer progression known as mTOR. The purpose of this study is to further investigate the safety and determine the antimetastatic effects of rapamycin when added to amputation and chemotherapy for treatment of osteosarcoma in dogs.

■ Participation Requirements

• Dogs with osteosarcoma of the leg bones that have not previously had therapy including surgery

■ Procedures

• Standard procedures for osteosarcoma including amputation, carboplatin treatment, and multiple chest x-rays
• Administration of oral rapamycin (at home) and collection of blood samples for analysis, if enrolled in the Rapamycin Group

■ Owner Responsibilities

• Keeping all scheduled appointments
• Administering rapamycin and recording those administrations if your dog is assigned to the Rapamycin Group
• Covering costs of the initial examination, screening diagnostic tests, and any costs associated with management of side effects from the standard therapy portion of this study
• Covering costs of the amputation beyond the $1000 credit provided by the study

■ Benefits

• The study will provide a $1000 hospital credit toward the cost of your dog’s amputation at the time surgery is performed.
• The study will cover the costs of carboplatin chemotherapy and follow-up examination and diagnostics.

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