Background & Purpose

Glaucoma is a disease that is a common cause of blindness worldwide in human and canine patients. We are interested in characterizing this disease better with hopes of identifying protein biomarkers or the genetic components of this disease.

Participation Requirements

- Healthy American Cocker Spaniels that are at least 10 years old with normal eyes
- American Cocker Spaniels diagnosed with primary glaucoma

Procedures

- Limited Diagnostic Testing
  - A full ophthalmic examination
  - An eye pressure test prior to and after dilation
  - Dilation of the eyes
  - Corneal thickness measurements via ultrasonic pachymetry
  - Fluorescein staining
  - Digital photographs of the eye
  - Gonioscopy
  - Non-Invasive A-Scan/B-Scan
  - Blood collection

- Advanced Diagnostic Testing (if required)
  - Advanced ocular imaging, including digital slit lamp photography, spectral domain optical coherence tomography (non-contact imaging), ultrasound biomicroscopy and fundus photography
  - Sedation may be required for these tests

Owner Responsibilities

- Covering any costs (beyond $200) related to complications, diagnostic testing, gonioscopy, sedation or blood sampling
- Keeping all scheduled appointments
- Filling out a history questionnaire and survey
- Monitoring the well-being of your dog at home and reporting any changes or side effects
- Withholding food on the morning prior to the appointment

Benefits

- The study will cover cost associated with the ophthalmic examination, ocular diagnostic testing, sedation, advanced ophthalmic imaging and blood collection plus up to $200 of costs for any complications, diagnostic testing, gonioscopy, sedation or blood sampling.
- Results from this study may lead to our improved ability to better predict the onset and progression of this disease.
- If a gene or effect through diagnostics that causes this disease is found, then we may be able to develop a genetic test or future diagnostic tests to know identify which dogs have or do not have this disease.