Current Veterinary Clinical Trials

ORAL MELANOMA
Finding Best Technique to Identify Metastasis in Dogs

- **Background & Purpose**
  - Currently, there is no standardized approach in veterinary medicine to assess for metastasis in oral malignant melanoma in dogs. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to compare lymph node palpation to the appearance of the local lymph nodes on CT scan and a combined PET/CT scan to histopathologic results in an effort to determine which method may be the most reliable for identification of metastatic (tumor filled) lymph nodes.

- **Participation Requirements**
  - Dogs diagnosed with oral melanoma with gross measurable disease
  - Deemed healthy enough for anesthesia
  - You have an interest in imaging (CT scan) for surgical or radiological planning

- **Procedures**
  - The same care and assessment as any dog with oral melanoma presented to the UC Davis VMTH plus:
    - A PET scan, which includes the injection of a radioactive tracer and hospitalization for one night
    - Removal of your pet’s lymph node(s) from under the chin

- **Owner Responsibilities**
  - Agree to have your dog’s lymph nodes removed
  - Covering costs associated with therapy to address your dog’s tumor (e.g., surgery, radiation and/or systemic treatment)

- **Benefits**
  - The study will cover costs of the CT scan, PET scan, surgical removal of the lymph node(s), and up to $300 for study-related adverse events.
  - Your dog will receive the most advanced imaging techniques to assess their tumor as well as the local lymph nodes.
  - Results from this study will hopefully improve medical knowledge about the capabilities of CT and PET scans, potentially limit unnecessary sampling and/or removal of lymph nodes, and better guide medical care for your dog and future dogs affected with the same disease.

**PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS**
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