

Veterinary Cancer Group

City of Angels Veterinary Specialty Center



Announcing a Partially Funded Study Investigating Low Dose Radiation Therapy for Treatment of Refractory Arthritis in Dogs

Osteoarthritis is estimated to affect as much as 20% of the canine population over one year of age. The disease is often irreversible and therapy is aimed at controlling inflammation, alleviating pain and restoring limb function. Unfortunately, some dogs develop end-stage debilitating disease and are refractory to standard therapeutic options.

In human studies, long term pain relief and functional gain have been reported in 50-75% of patients with refractory arthritis treated with very low doses of radiation therapy. In animal models, low doses of radiation have been shown to reduce the inflammation, decreasing the synthesis of synovial fluid and joint effusion. Our current study investigates the response to radiation therapy for the treatment of canine osteoarthritis. Three daily small doses of radiation will be administered to the affected joint(s) in a dose range lower than that which would cause side effects.

Eligible candidates must have orthogonal radiographic views of the joint, complete blood count and serum biochemistry profile, and a urine specific gravity prior to enrollment. Dogs will be examined on day 1, day 7, day 14, at 1 month, 3 months, 6 months, and at 1 year after completion of radiation.

Study is a partially funded prospective study with initial enrollment limited to 20 patients and is a collaborative effort between Veterinary Cancer Group and Advanced Critical Care of Los Angeles. Veterinarians wanting more information should contact Board Certified Radiation Oncologist, Dr. Jarred Lyons at 310.558.6120.

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Update July 2011:

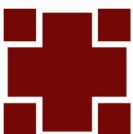
Two patients with refractory arthritis have been enrolled and both have had a significant improvement in both their functionality and pain level. To date, they continue to maintain their response. As expected, no side effects noted.



Jarred Lyons, DVM, DACVR



Kim Carey, DVM, DACVS



Veterinary Cancer Group of Los Angeles
working in conjunction with **Advanced Critical Care of Los Angeles**

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Call Dr. Lyons at 310.558.6120 for more information.