

UTCVM SOFT TISSUE SURGERY SERVICE

CLINICAL TRIAL

Splenic Masses in Dogs

Background:

- Currently, the only way to definitively diagnose splenic tumors in dogs is to remove the spleen for biopsy.
- Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) is often used in humans to aid in determination of the type and spread of a tumor.
- The MRI appearance of tumors in the spleen and how they relate to malignancy has not been defined in dogs but would be helpful in early and non-invasive diagnosis of splenic cancer.

Participation Requirements:

- Dogs must have an abdominal ultrasound confirming the presence of a splenic tumor at the University of Tennessee.
- Owners must consent to an abdominal MRI using a specified contrast agent prior to any surgical intervention.
- Owners must be willing to proceed with procurement of biopsy samples of abnormal tissues after MRI.

Procedures:

- Prior to surgery, an abdominal MRI must be performed.
- A special contrast agent, which is shown to be safe, will be administered to enhance all abnormalities, but especially within the liver.
- Following MRI, samples must be taken of the abnormal tissues noted on MRI.

Benefits:

- The costs associated with the MRI and associated anesthesia will be covered.
- The costs of histopathology obtained for study purposes will be covered.
- This study could help define if MRI can be used to determine if a lesion is benign or malignant without the need for an invasive procedure, such as spleen removal.

Think you have an eligible patient? Contact:

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