

Palliative radiation in treatment of idiopathic lymphoplasmacytic rhinitis in dogs

Purpose Of Study

Idiopathic lymphoplasmacytic rhinitis (LPR) is a common cause of chronic nasal discharge in dogs and can be challenging to treat. Many pet owners become frustrated with medical therapy and inconsistent responses to treatment. Recently, radiation therapy has been proposed as a potential treatment for LPR given that lymphocytes are extremely sensitive to radiation. The purpose of this study is to evaluate palliative radiation therapy as a treatment modality for idiopathic LPR in dogs that have failed medical management. In addition, this study will monitor computed tomographic (CT) changes with LPR to better characterize the disease and response to treatment.

Inclusion Criteria

- Dogs previously diagnosed with LPR (in the last 4 years based on biopsy) that have had **continued** clinical signs (nasal discharge, sneezing, etc.)

Exclusion Criteria

- All dogs must undergo some diagnostic testing prior to starting the study to ensure that they are eligible
 - » CT scan - any changes incompatible with LPR (dental disease, foreign material, cancer, etc) will prompt exclusion
 - » Minimum database and physical examination to ensure they are free from medical conditions that influence anesthesia candidacy

Procedure

Each enrolled dog will undergo a 5-day course of radiation therapy (Monday – Friday). In addition, each dog will participate in regular outpatient follow-up over 14 months following radiation therapy, including a repeat CT scan 3-4 months after completion of radiation therapy.



Study benefits

- Palliative Radiation Therapy: Each dog will receive a 5-day course of radiation, including anesthesia, and associated hospitalization, free of charge. Estimated savings: \$3000.
 - Recheck CT Scan: 3-4 months following radiation therapy, each dog will receive a diagnostic CT scan under anesthesia, free of charge. Estimated savings: \$ 1000-1200
- * All dogs must have a CT scan at UTCVM to determine their eligibility prior to receiving these financial incentives
 - * No additional monetary compensation or travel stipend provided

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