



CanineCancer.org.au
DEDICATED TO CANINE CANCER AWARENESS

Tissue Sample Collection for Veterinarians

CanineCancer.org.au is looking for veterinarians who may be interested in helping the Animal Health Trust in the United Kingdom collect tissue samples for research into canine cancer. I have both email and phone contact regularly with Dr Mike Starkey, Head of Molecular Oncology in regards to obtaining these samples

They have been receiving cheek swabs from dog owners for some time via our website. There is a list of what breed of dog they are looking for and the corresponding cancers pertaining to that breed. The AHT sends the cheek swab kits once they receive the online paperwork from the owners who would like to participate. <http://www.caninecancer.org.au/researchuk.html>

As tissue samples are the “Gold” for this research, I am trying to find veterinarians that might be interested in collecting samples when tumours have been removed. The AHT will send RNA Later kits to those interested in participating. This is the only preservative they can use for this collection. When collected, the sample, a pathology report and a consent form from the dog owner is returned to the AHT. Once received they send new kits for future samples. In addition to the required list of cheek swab samples or tissue samples of the same already on the website, there is a further list for tissue samples provided with the kits.

Primary veterinarians are often in the best position to get these samples. The veterinary oncologists that are participating, mostly see patients on referral from a primary veterinarian after the tumour has been removed and therefore there would be less opportunity for them to get the samples.

As this is worldwide participation, sometimes the AHT has sent kits and they have never been returned. Therefore it is important that the kits go out to veterinarians that would really like to be involved in this research. In the first instance I am getting the first lot of kits organised for those interested and from there the AHT will just send new kits as they are returned. This process, has so far helped to streamline things for them.

If you would be interested in participating it would be fantastic to have your assistance. Please email me with your details and advise how many kits you think you might need, in accordance with the amount of samples you think you would be able to collect. We have found it takes about ten days for the kits to get to Australia.

Kindest regards

Lisa

lisa@caninecancer.org.au