Phase II clinical trial investigating the efficacy of vinorelbine and piroxicam in the treatment of canine urinary transitional cell carcinoma

We are enrolling dogs with urinary transitional cell carcinoma (TCC) into a clinical study designed to evaluate a novel chemotherapy protocol. Dogs with newly diagnosed TCC or TCC that has become resistant to first-line therapy will be enrolled.

What is this trial intended to provide?

TCC is the most common tumor of the urinary bladder in dogs. Standard therapy includes treatment with the chemotherapy drug mitoxantrone and the non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) piroxicam, however this combination has a low response rate. Canine TCC closely resembles advanced urinary bladder TCC in people. Recent studies in humans with TCC have shown promise with combination therapy with the drug vinorelbine.

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the efficacy of vinorelbine in combination with piroxicam in dogs with TCC.

Principal Investigator at The AMC
Andrea Flory, DVM, DACVIM (Oncology), Co-Chair, Department of Medical Oncology

To be eligible for this study, your dog must:

1) have a confirmed diagnosis of a bladder TCC
2) have an initial evaluation which will include thoracic radiographs, abdominal ultrasound, and blood tests
3) have relatively normal blood values
4) not have received prior chemotherapy, radiation therapy, or corticosteroids within 72 hours of starting this study
5) not have any serious systemic disorder incompatible with this study (dogs with more than one malignancy are not excluded)
6) discontinue any homeopathic/alternative therapies for their cancer. Supplements such as chondroitin sulphate, vitamins, essential fatty acids and glucosamine are permitted during the trial period
Medical Protocol
Pre-treatment labwork will include complete blood count (CBC), chemistry profile, and urinalysis. Diagnostic testing required for enrollment includes chest x-rays and an abdominal ultrasound (the ultrasound must be performed at AMC). Dogs will be treated with vinorelbine as an IV injection once weekly for 4 weeks, and piroxicam will be administered by mouth once daily at home. Dogs that have stable disease or whose tumors respond will continue to receive vinorelbine every 2 weeks.

Patient Monitoring
Tumor response will be assessed with ultrasound at week 4, and again at week 12 if therapy is continued.

Medical Costs
The initial diagnosis and staging is at the owner’s expense. Financial coverage for initial therapy and response assessment is available for a limited number of patients.

If you believe your pet may fit into this study, please call the appointment desk at 212 838-8100 and ask for a new patient oncology visit with Dr. Flory.*

You could also have your veterinarian contact Dr. Flory
Voice mail: 212-329-8687
E-mail: andrea.flory@amcny.org

*Your veterinarian will need to send a copy of your pet's record to Dr. Flory to discuss eligibility and/or to set up an appointment.

Participating Institutions:
The Animal Medical Center
University of Georgia
Colorado State University
Southeast Veterinary Oncology
University of Wisconsin