

Study information for veterinarians

If you have any clients who you think would be interested in participating in our study, or if your client has approached you about this study, the following information should be helpful.

We are soliciting DNA samples from English Cocker Spaniels and other breeds that you are currently treating or have treated in the past for primary IMHA.

Inclusion and exclusion criteria for the study are as follows:

Inclusion criteria

- CBC documenting HCT < 30%
- Positive results on one of the following tests:
 - Slide autoagglutination test (macro or micro)
 - Pathologist-reviewed blood smear documenting spherocytosis
 - Coombs test with a titer of 1:64 or greater
 - Flow cytometry documenting erythrocyte surface-bound IgG or IgM

Exclusion criteria

- Thoracic radiographs showing evidence of disease consistent with neoplasia (at the time of diagnosis)
- Abdominal radiographs showing evidence of disease consistent with neoplasia or a foreign metallic object (at the time of diagnosis)
- Abdominal ultrasound showing evidence of systemic disease at the time of diagnosis
- Evidence of true infection with any erythrocyte-borne pathogen or rickettsial disease based upon blood smear, culture, convalescent IFA, or PCR

At a minimum, patients must meet (or have met) both inclusion criteria concurrently. It is not necessary to have evaluated patients for all of the exclusion criteria. However, if you did perform any of the listed exclusion criteria tests and your patient meets one of them, unfortunately we cannot include that patient in the study. If you have any clients meeting the above criteria who might be interested in donating a blood sample for genetics research, please

e-mail Dr. Steven Friedenbergr at fried255@umn.edu with your contact details and we will arrange a time to discuss the case. If your patient qualifies, we will send you a prepaid shipping label to send us the sample at our expense. The study requires the following to be shipped:

- 4-5 mL of blood in 1 or 2 EDTA/purple top tubes
- Relevant medical records to confirm the diagnosis
- A filled out consent form
- A copy of the dog's pedigree, if provided by the owner

We will provide you with further shipping details once we ensure that your patient is a good candidate for the study.