



Cornell University Veterinary Specialists

Canine Clinical Trial



Investigating Biomarkers in Dogs with Gastric Dilatation-Volvulus

Gastric dilatation-volvulus, commonly known as GDV or bloat, is a life-threatening condition that occurs in dogs when the stomach becomes distended and then rotates within the abdominal cavity. When this occurs, blood flow from the abdomen to the heart is reduced, and perfusion to tissue in the stomach and other organs can be compromised. In some cases, stomach tissue is devitalized and has to be surgically resected; or is so extensively necrotic that surgical resection is not possible. Unfortunately, we do not have any means of determining preoperatively which dogs have extensive devitalization and thus a poor prognosis.

This study, in collaboration with Cornell University Hospital for Animals, is investigating biomarkers in dogs with naturally-occurring GDV. Biomarkers are measurable characteristics in blood that can be used as indicators of biological states or conditions. By collecting blood samples from dogs that present to us with GDV, we strengthen CUVS's mission of improving animal health through innovation and discovery. Currently, the only reliable method of determining whether the stomach is viable or tissue has died from lack of perfusion is to perform surgery to directly visualize and palpate the stomach for areas of necrosis. The use of biomarkers could potentially be useful in predicting the severity of devitalized tissue prior to surgery, and provide a reliable and noninvasive means of predicting prognosis and survival.

GOALS This study aims to identify blood biomarkers in dogs with GDV, so providing veterinarians an ability to predict the severity of devitalized tissue prior to surgery, and provide a reliable and noninvasive means of predicting prognosis and survival.

ELIGIBILITY Any dog diagnosed with GDV at Cornell University Veterinary Specialists or the Cornell University Hospital for Animals is eligible for enrollment.

COMPENSATION There are no costs to you for your dog to participate in the study. The cost of any tests or procedures that are considered standard of care in the treatment of GDV, including clinically necessary bloodwork, surgery, aftercare and follow-up treatment are not covered by the study and are the responsibility of the owner.

OWNER RESPONSIBILITIES Your dog will have a small amount of additional blood taken prior to surgery.

Interested in
participating?

Principal Investigators:

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Contact/Schedule an Appointment at CUVS:

Please call the Surgery Department at 203.595.2777 or email surgery@cuvs.org.