Cornell University
College of Veterinary Medicine

March 7, 2014

Dear Doctor,

As part of ongoing research into the mechanisms of canine soft tissue sarcomas of the peripheral limb and peri-articular histiocytic sarcomas, the Miller lab at the Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine needs the help of veterinarians to obtain fresh tumoral tissue samples from affected dogs.

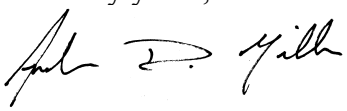
The research in the Miller lab is focused on using targeted genetic and immunohistochemical analysis to better understand the role that mutations play in tumorigenesis, progression, and ultimately treatment response. We are additionally focused on understanding the role that tumor infiltrating inflammatory cells play in tumor progression and patient prognosis. To further advance our research, we are now searching for tumoral samples from dogs.

The following is what we would need specifically:

1) From dogs with either soft tissue sarcomas or peri-articular histiocytic sarcomas:
    a. Sterile pieces of $1cm^3$ tumoral tissue collected during surgery or immediately after euthanasia. For optimal isolation, samples need to be stored (and shipped) in physiological saline solution at 4 degrees Celsius (e.g. the tubes wrapped in ice packs).
    b. A piece of $1cm^3$ (or less if not available) stored (and shipped) in 10% NBF. This can be shipped together with the other samples at 4 degrees C. We will use this piece for histopathologic examination of the tumor tissue with results shared with the submitting veterinarian if requested.

Our lab has already made some interesting discoveries related to tumor antigen expression and immune cell infiltrates in other tumors in the dog and we are hopeful that this data provides further insight into tumorigenesis in the dog. If you are interested in joining our effort to understand these tumors, please contact me at the email address above and we will provide shipping information (i.e. FedEx account etc.)

Sincerely yours,



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