



UW Veterinary Care
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

LOOKING FOR Healthy Dogs & Dogs with UTI

Dogs with Recurrent Urinary Tract Infections (UTI) and healthy female dogs

The Study

This study measures the amount of chondroitin sulfate (Cosequin®) excreted in dogs' urine. Studies in people have found some prevention of urinary tract (bladder) infections (UTI) in women receiving chondroitin sulfate instilled directly into the urinary bladder. This method of treatment is impractical for most dogs, thus one potential alternative is oral chondroitin sulfate supplementation. If increased concentrations of chondroitin sulfate are present in the urine of dogs receiving Cosequin®, then oral therapy may help to prevent bladder infections in dogs. Cosequin® is a common food supplement used for joint health and has minimum side effects.

Who Qualifies

Any healthy female dog who has never received Cosequin® may participate. Female dogs with recurrent urinary tract infections may also participate. Study patients must not have liver, kidney or bladder problems. They cannot be receiving steroids or anticoagulant medications.

What Happens

Patients receive a free exam, including laboratory tests to be enrolled in the study. Then, urine is collected, at home, for six days prior to starting

the supplement. Urine samples are delivered daily (Mon-Fri) to the Internal Medicine Service. Dogs then receive Cosequin® chewable tablets for the next seven days. Urine is collected daily and delivered to the Internal Medicine Service.

Why Participate

Urinary tract infection is a common problem in dogs. A new use of a common food supplement may help to prevent this painful condition. There is no cost to participate in the study. All examinations, lab tests and Cosequin® are free. Patients receive a full bottle of Cosequin® that may be continued after the study completion. Continuing Cosequin® may improve joint health in arthritic dogs.

More Information

If you are interested in participating in this study, please contact Drs. Michael Wood or Sara Colopy 608-263-7600 or saim@vetmed.wisc.edu. Thank you!

