Where Can I Find Information on Studies?

Have you wondered if you pet or patient may qualify for a clinical study? How do you know what studies may be available and what the study entails? All of this information is a simple click away on the UW Veterinary Care website. Every month, updates on studies are posted. Simply go to uwveterinarycare.com and click on “Clinical Studies.” On the Studies homepage, you will find Frequently Asked Questions along with links to lists of current studies. The studies are divided into large animal and small animal according to specialty service.

Each specialty, currently conducting a study, also has its own section within the clinical studies webpage. You may click on each specialty to obtain more detailed information. For example, if a dog has developed a cranial cruciate ligament (CCL) tear, go to the Orthopaedics section under clinical studies to obtain information on a study of this condition.

Some studies may be listed in more than one specialty. An example of this is our ongoing bladder tumor study. Bladder cancer is treated through the oncology service. However a small animal internal medicine clinician, with much interest in the genetics of disease, is conducting a study to determine if genetic and/or environmental factors may lead to a high incidence of this type of cancer. Studies, such as this, that cross multiple disciplines provide different knowledge bases, better understanding of the conditions being studied and perhaps more productive treatments.

Not all conditions can be studied within one institution. Our clinicians often collaborate with other specialists around the country to conduct studies. Some studies require large number of participants to provide enough data to obtain meaningful results. This leads to the same study being conducted at multiple veterinary hospitals, at the same time, with a single investigator accumulating all of the data. This is a multi-institutional study.

Alternately, some study protocols allow for remote inclusion of a patient. This means a patient may participate in a study without ever having to travel to the institution conducting the study. An example is UW Veterinary Care’s recently completed study on Sulfa drug allergies. The study was looking at blood samples from dogs that had received Sulfa drugs. Investigators compared bio-markers in the blood of dogs that had developed an allergic reaction to the medication versus dogs who did not develop problems. Blood samples were obtained from dogs at their local veterinary hospitals and sent into the UW Veterinary Care. Patients were able to participate in the study with no additional travel.