The Study:
Bladder cancer (transitional cell carcinoma) in dogs can lead to blood in the urine, pain on urination, and progression to urinary blockage. Bladder cancer in humans can be caused by toxic chemicals in the environment, along with a decreased ability to break down these toxic chemicals. We are looking to see if the same is true for dogs. **The aim of this study** is to determine whether exposure to certain environmental chemicals contributes to bladder cancer risk in the dog, and whether differences in GST genes, which are responsible for chemical breakdown, make certain dogs more likely to develop bladder cancer.

Who Qualifies:
**Cases:** Any dog diagnosed with bladder cancer (transitional cell carcinoma of the bladder or urethra), confirmed by tumor biopsy, genetic (BRAF) test, or examination of urinary cells.

**Controls:** Any dog 11 years of age or older with no signs of urinary disease within the past year, and no history of cancer.

What happens:
The inside of the dog’s cheek is swabbed with a soft brush to obtain a **DNA sample**, and a **voided 25 mL urine sample** is collected. Samples can be obtained at a quick visit to UW Veterinary Care or at the dog’s primary care veterinary clinic, using a kit that we provide. The dog’s owner will also be asked to fill out a **questionnaire** about the dog’s environment, included in the study kit.

Why Participate:
The results of this study may help us understand what causes bladder cancer in some dogs, and lead to better ways to prevent this disease.

More Information:
If you are interested in participating in this study, please contact Ros Luethcke at luethcke@wisc.edu or Dr. Lauren Trepanier at lauren.trepanier@wisc.edu

Thank you for your interest in this study!