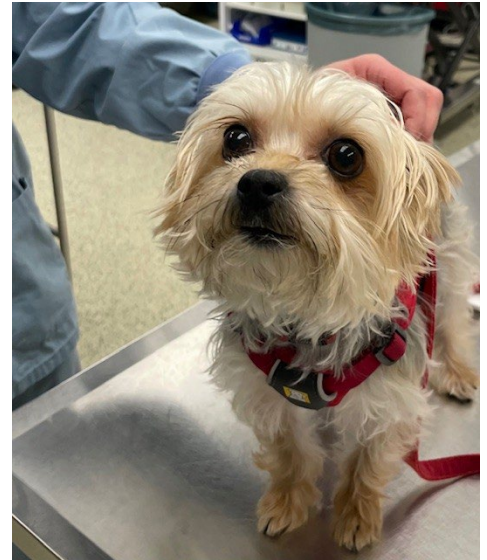




Randomized Controlled Trial of Two Dry Kibble Diets for Dogs with Protein-Losing Enteropathy

Study Overview

The Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine is conducting a research study comparing two different therapeutic diets for dogs diagnosed with protein-losing enteropathy (PLE). Though both diets are considered suitable for dogs with PLE, this clinical trial aims to determine if one of the diet leads to faster resolution of clinical signs and better biochemical control of the disease in affected dogs.



Study Purpose

This trial will evaluate whether a standard hydrolyzed diet or a combination low-fat hydrolyzed diet leads to better outcomes in dogs with PLE. The information gathered will help veterinarians make more informed dietary recommendations and will help future dogs with PLE receive improved treatment recommendations.

Eligibility

In order for dogs to be eligible for the trial, they will need to have a complete diagnostic work-up including blood tests, urinalysis, abdominal ultrasound, and endoscopy with intestinal biopsies. These tests will determine that they do have PLE syndrome and also what is causing the PLE syndrome. Some of this diagnostic work-up may be performed with the primary care veterinarian, or it can all be performed at Michigan State University. Dogs with biopsy evidence of severe intestinal lymphangiectasia will not be eligible for this trial. However, a separate controlled diet trial will be available for those dogs.

Treatment Protocol

Upon enrollment, eligible dogs will:

- Be randomly assigned to one of two therapeutic diets
- Receive standard medications for PLE treatment
- Return for no-cost follow-up examinations and bloodwork to monitor their progress at days 14, 28, 42, and 84

If a dog's condition does not improve satisfactorily by day 14, they will be switched to the alternative diet. If no improvement is seen by day 28, dogs will be removed from the trial. At this time they may be eligible for a different trial using fresh frozen food.

Cost

Caretakers who elect to have their dogs participate in the trial will receive \$1000 off the cost of the diagnostic work-up. Additionally, the costs associated with all subsequent study visits will be covered, including all follow-up examination fees and blood testing. Finally, the trial food will be provided at no cost for the length of time dogs are in the study. All additional costs will need to be covered by the client, including the cost of any prescribed medications. Estimates will be given for these costs.

Note: Enrollment in this study is entirely voluntary. Dogs will receive standard of care regardless of whether they participate in the study. Dogs may be withdrawn from the study at any time without penalty.

This study is being conducted at:

- Michigan State University Veterinary Medical Center (MSU-VMC) with collaboration from the nutrition team at Texas A&M University Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital (TAMU-VTH).

Principal Investigators: Dr. Sara Jablonski (MSU-VMC) and Dr. Katie Tolbert (TAMU-VTH).

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Contact Information

For additional information or to inquire about participation, please contact:

Heather DeFore

Clinical Trials Nurse, Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine

Email: flatter4@msu.edu

OR

Dr. Sara Jablonski

Assistant professor, Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine

Email: sjw@msu.edu