

BREEN AND MODIANO STUDY - INSTRUCTIONS FOR VETERINARIANS

This project aims to identify predisposition genes and recurrent chromosomal aberrations associated with **HEMANGIOSARCOMA**, **LYMPHOMA** and **OSTEOSARCOMA** in **Flat-Coated Retrievers**. **Both blood and tumor** samples are requested from affected **dogs who have NOT received chemo or radiation therapy**. In the case of affected **dogs who HAVE received chemo or radiation therapy**, or in cases where tumor samples are not available, **blood samples alone** are requested.

Thank you for supporting your client's wishes to participate in this important study. A common problem is that tissue samples submitted for this study often do not arrive at Dr. Breen's lab in a usable condition. To reduce this unfortunate waste, please follow the instructions below carefully. If you have questions, feel free to contact the Breen lab (E-mail: info@breenlab.org; phone: 919-513-1466).

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

Sterile pack for harvesting viable tumor sample
EDTA tubes (lilac tops) - sufficient number for 10-20 mls of blood
Sterile containers for viable tissue sample – e.g., a red top tube
Specimen containers with formalin for preserved tissue sample
Ziploc bags
Labels (not water soluble)
Cold/ice packs and shipping container

HOW TO COLLECT SAMPLES:

Peripheral blood samples:

Collect 10-20 ml of **blood** in EDTA tubes (lilac tops). Mix well. Keep refrigerated until shipped (see shipping instructions below). Label with dog's first and last name.

Viable tumor samples:

An unfixed **tumor sample** will be used for tissue culture. The cells must be **fresh, sterile** and **viable**. **Use sterile techniques**, even for a sample collected postmortem (collected as soon as possible, and not more than 12 hours postmortem). The sample must be placed in a **sterile container** (e.g., a 5-ml, red-top tube) and kept refrigerated until shipped (see below) to preserve it in a viable condition. Send tumor tissue only—no adjoining tissue or necrotic tissue. Tumor biopsy samples should be about the **size of a blueberry**. In the case of needle biopsies, at least **two tru-cuts (14 gauge)** are required. **Label tubes with the dog's first and last name, date of collection, and tissue type** (e.g., the affected organ or body part).

Tumor sample preserved in formalin:

Submit **another sample** of the same size and from the **same tumor preserved in formalin** in a **well-sealed** specimen container. Label the tube as above, i.e., dog's name, the date and tissue origin.

SHIPPING:

The **viable tumor sample** should be refrigerated when collected, and then shipped as soon as possible on ice (via FedEx or DHL). **Samples must be received within 24 hours of shipping**; thus, they must be shipped overnight on Monday-Thursday for delivery on Tuesday-Friday. **Contact Dr. Breen** and inform him that a parcel is being sent. If samples must be collected on a Friday or on a weekend, please refrigerate over the weekend and then ship overnight on Monday to arrive Tuesday. Please **ship all viable samples with an ice pack, in a well-sealed and well-padded container**. Blood samples may be sent separately from tumor samples by regular mail. If shipped along with tumor samples, please **isolate the blood tubes in a Ziploc bag**. **Formalin-preserved samples should also be isolated in a Ziploc bag**.

Ship to: Dr. Matthew Breen, Soft Tissue Sarcoma Project, NCSU College of Veterinary Medicine, CVM Research Building, 4700 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh, NC 27606. Phone: 919-513-1466; Fax 919-513-7301; E-mail info@breenlab.org