New Clinical Trial for Canine Chronic Diarrhea (IBD)

Project Overview
In this study we want to evaluate the clinical efficacy of a new product (Intesto-Guard™) in dogs with chronic diarrhea (enteropathy).

Intesto–Guard™ contains a binding protein and a combination of probiotics and prebiotics, which may reduce and control clinical signs of chronic diarrheal cases.

The purpose of this study is to compare the outcome of 2 groups of dogs with chronic enteropathy:
• One group treated with hypoallergenic diet, together with Intesto–Guard™.
• One group treated with the hypoallergenic diet and a placebo (no medication).

If the dog does not get better, rescue treatment with an immunosuppressor (cyclosporin) will be initiated.

Cyclosporine and hypoallergenic diet are each part of standard management of a chronic enteropathy (IBD) in a dog.

Trial design
In this study, the participation will last for 3 visits at the Lloyd Veterinary Medical Center, over a 6 week-period.

Visit 1: Day of enrollment.
Your dog will be randomly assigned to one of the 3 groups mentioned here above.

This visit will occur as follows:
• A physical examination will be performed.
• Blood, urine and feces will be collected.
• A GI endoscopy will be performed under general anesthesia, for diagnostic purposes, during which intestinal samples (called biopsies) will be taken to assess your dog's condition.
• An abdominal ultrasound will be performed.
• An hypoallergenic diet will be provided for the entire study period.

All of the above, including the diet, is part of routine management of a dog with chronic enteropathy, regardless of the study.

Visit 2: Day 14
On this visit, a physical examination will be performed, and blood, urine and feces will be collected again.

Visit 3: Day 42
This visit will occur exactly like Visit 1. The same samples will be collected, and the GI endoscopy will be repeated.

If your dog does not show a significant improvement of his/her condition at Visit 2, he/she will be removed from his/her group and be prescribed cyclosporine (immuno-suppressor). He/she will remain enrolled in the study for the full 6 weeks course.

Client Costs
Each study participant will receive a study participation credit, not to exceed 4000$ off the total bill after completion of the third visit.

Any adverse effects attributable to the test product will be medically managed by a study internist at no cost to you.

You will be responsible for any costs associated with he normal course of treatment, and unrelated medical conditions.

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