

How you can help

We would be very grateful to hear of any dogs affected by histiocytic sarcoma

We are hoping to collect blood and tissue samples for our research

We would be willing to advise on their management or see them at a reduced fee as part of this work



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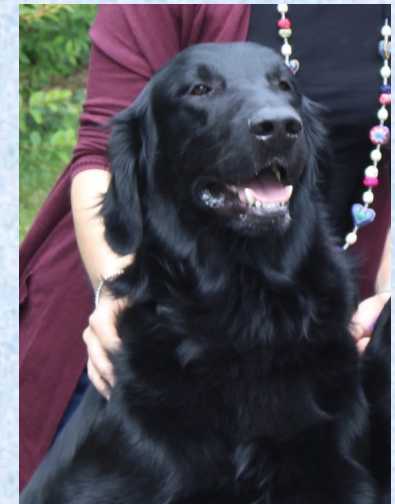


Thank you very much for your help



Flatcoated Retriever Project

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Project background

Histiocytic sarcoma is a highly aggressive tumour that affects Flatcoated Retrievers among other breeds. The most common localization is within the soft tissue surrounding the joints. This often causes swelling of the limb and lameness. A less common localization is visceral, and often a mass is found within the spleen.

Both forms sadly carry a very sad prognosis.

We are looking to improve future treatment options for Flatcoated Retrievers affected by histiocytic sarcoma by investigating the relationship between the immune system of the patients and the tumour.

Information on previous work can be found at:

<http://www.flatcoated-retriever-society.org/health/cancer-research>

What does the project involve

In this project we will be concentrating on identifying Regulatory T cells within the tumour and in the peripheral blood.

These specific cells play a fundamental role in controlling levels of immune response. By doing so they avoid harmful and excessive auto-immune reactions.

Over the past decades studies in human oncology have shown that these cells decrease anti-tumoural activity of the immune system, allowing the tumour to grow and spread.

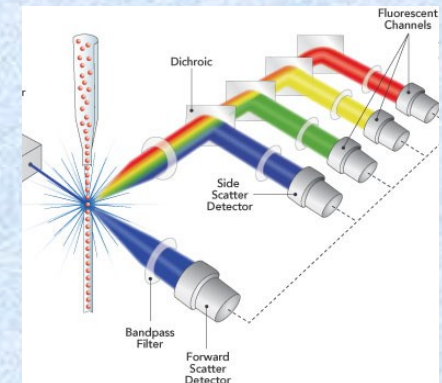
It has been demonstrated in previous studies that histiocytic sarcoma in Flatcoated retrievers have a prominent population of Regulatory T cells.

Through analysis of tumour and blood samples we are looking to investigate the role played by these cells in Flatcoated Retrievers with histiocytic sarcoma.

Project future

Cells within the tumour microenvironment appear to be responsible for pathways causing an elevation in Regulatory T cells.

A better understanding of these pathways in histiocytic sarcoma will allow to comprehend the relationship between immune system and cancer and help identify possible immunotherapy targets for future treatment.



Flow cytometry is one of the methods we will be using for our investigations.