



**UW Veterinary Care**  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

## Why Do Dogs Get Bladder Cancer?

### Bladder Cancer in Dogs: Environmental Risk Factors

#### **The Study**

Bladder cancer in dogs can lead to blood in the urine, pain on urination, and urinary blockage. The underlying causes in dogs are not well understood. Bladder cancer in humans can be caused by toxic chemicals in the environment. We are looking to see if the same is true for dogs. The aim of this study is to determine whether urinary exposure to certain environmental chemicals contributes to bladder cancer risk in the dog. A second part of this study is to determine whether owners of dogs with bladder cancer have similar urinary chemical exposures.

#### **Who Qualifies**

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, or any dog that is identified as an unaffected matched control. There is an option to enroll yourself as an owner of one of these dogs.

#### **What Happens**

You collect a voided 25 mL urine sample (about 2 tablespoons) from your dog using a kit that we provide. You will also be asked to fill out a questionnaire about your dog's household environment. It is optional for you to also provide a urine sample from yourself and to collect household dust, drinking water, and air samples from your home using materials that we provide.

#### **Why Participate**

The results of this study may help us understand what causes bladder cancer in some dogs, and whether owners of these dogs share exposure to certain chemicals in the environment. Our goal is to find better ways to prevent bladder cancer in dogs and people.

#### **More Information**

If you are interested in participating in this study, please contact Torrey Tiedeman at [tiedeman@wisc.edu](mailto:tiedeman@wisc.edu) or Dr. Lauren Trepanier at [lauren.trepanier@wisc.edu](mailto:lauren.trepanier@wisc.edu) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine.