Environmental Chemicals and Lymphoma in Boxer Dogs

The Study
Lymphoma is a fatal cancer of the blood cells in dogs. The boxer breed is at higher risk, but the reasons for this are not understood. Lymphoma in people is associated with toxic chemicals in the environment. We are looking to see if the same is true for dogs. The goal of this study is to see whether certain environmental chemicals contribute to lymphoma risk in dogs, starting with the boxer breed.

Who Qualifies
Any purebred boxer dog diagnosed with lymphoma by a veterinarian performing cytology or biopsy. Dogs must be enrolled before any chemotherapy is started, but prednisone is allowed. We are also seeking healthy unaffected boxers to act as controls.

What Happens
You collect a voided 25 mL urine sample (about 2 tablespoons) from your dog using a kit that we mail to your home. We also ask you to fill out a questionnaire about your dog’s household environment and to collect drinking water and air samples from your home using materials that we provide.

Why Participate
The results of this study may help us understand whether toxic chemicals in the environment increase the risk for lymphoma in boxer dogs. Our goal is to find better ways to prevent lymphoma in dogs.

More Information
To learn more about this study, please contact Hannah Peterson at hpeterson4@wisc.edu or Dr. Lauren Trepanier at lauren.trepanier@wisc.edu, both at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine. Thank you for reading about our study!