May 1, 2007

Mr. Larry Dewey
Health and Research Chairman
Miniature Pinscher Club of America
22515 Cascade Springs
Katy, TX 77494

I am very pleased to announce that AKC Canine Health Foundation, with your club’s support, has funded a 2-year study to investigate the causes for vaccination-induced allergic reactions in dogs.

Allergic reactions are the most common adverse event associated with vaccination in dogs. Recent research has demonstrated that small dogs in general, and Miniature Pinschers in particular, are at higher risk for these reactions. Although the specific cause of allergic reactions in dogs remains unknown, vaccine components residual from the manufacturing process have been incriminated. Our study will compare the serum antibody concentrations in Miniature Pinschers demonstrating allergic reactions versus antibody concentrations in other Miniature Pinschers that don’t have reactions, seeking to identify the vaccine components that stimulate allergic reactions.

Our desire is to receive serum samples from at least 25 Miniature Pinschers with allergic reactions after vaccination and 25 Miniature Pinschers (their littermates, if possible) that did not experience reactions after vaccination. We are asking owners to have their veterinarian draw blood (3-5 ml) from each dog within 1 month of vaccination/reaction, and we will coordinate with the veterinarian to mail us the serum from the blood. We will analyze the samples for increases in antibodies against vaccine components that might have caused the allergic reaction. Owners may choose to receive the results of the tests for their dog(s) or may remain anonymous.

I would greatly appreciate your widest dissemination of this study to your club members. Information regarding the study and client consent forms is posted on our website at (http://www.vet.purdue.edu/k9vaxxxx/), and this information is also attached. If you or your club members should have any questions, please contact me at 765-496-3393 or gemoore@purdue.edu. Thanks for your support!

Sincerely,

George E. Moore, DVM, PhD
Associate Professor of Clinical Epidemiology

School of Veterinary Medicine
Veterinary Pathology Building 725 Harrison Street West Lafayette, IN 47907-2027
(765) 494-7941 Fax: (765) 494-9830
Investigation of Vaccine Reactions in Dogs

Sample Submission

Veterinarians at Purdue University’s School of Veterinary Medicine, in conjunction with the American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation, are leading a study in 2007-2008 to investigate the causes of allergic-type vaccine reactions in dogs. In this study, we will measure antigen-specific IgE concentrations against 10 heterologous vaccine components, and compare the serum concentrations in affected versus non-affected dogs of the same breed and of different breeds.

Study candidates: Dogs showing allergic reactions (type I hypersensitivity) immediately after vaccination. Clinical signs usually include facial or periorbital edema, wheals or urticaria, generalized pruritus, and/or vomiting within 2-3 hours after vaccination.

Breeds: Eight breeds have been selected for this study (Dachshund, Pug, Chihuahua, Miniature Pinscher, Boston Terrier, Boxer, Australian Terrier, and Kerry Blue Terrier). Serum samples from affected (dogs having allergic reactions) and non-affected dogs (no allergic reaction after vaccination) from each breed are desired. For comparisons, it is very important that we receive a sample from non-affected dogs in these breeds as well as affected dogs. Our study goal is samples from 25 affected and 25 non-affected dogs of each breed.

To enhance the analytic capability of the study, it is highly desirable [but not required] that the non-affected dog of the same breed received the same vaccine(s) as the affected dog, and be of similar age as (if possible be a littermate of) the affected dog.

Sample collection:
Two (2) ml of serum are needed per dog for the analyses, necessitating withdrawal of approximately 4-5 ml of blood. Samples may be taken from affected dogs as soon as clinical signs of an allergic reaction develop, or within 3 weeks thereafter. Samples may be taken from non-affected dogs as soon as the day following vaccination, or within 3 weeks thereafter. Please send serum, and not whole blood.

Forms:
Sample submission:
Veterinarians can email the investigators (kvavrxvn@purdue.edu) their mailing address, and postage-paid mailers will be sent to the veterinarian for return of the serum sample to our laboratory. Alternatively, you can send the serum sample(s) and forms direct to:

Immunopathology Laboratory
Attn: Vaccine Study (VPTH 203)
Dept. of Comparative Pathobiology
725 Harrison Street
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2027

There is NO cost to the owner or veterinarian for our test.

Sample Information: The Specimen Submission Form must be completed and submitted for each patient's sample.

Client Consent: Owners should sign the study Client Consent Form, and the signed form should be submitted to Purdue University with the serum sample.
Investigation of Vaccine Reactions in Dogs

Test results can be returned to the veterinarian if desired. If you have any questions about this study, please contact Dr. Moore at 765-496-3393 or gemoore@purdue.edu.

Sincerely,

George Moore, DVM, PhD, and Harm HogenEsch, DVM, PhD
Project Investigators, Purdue University
Investigation of Vaccine Reactions in Dogs

Sample Information

Breed: ___________________________  Wt: ______

Date of birth (mo/day/yr): _____ / _____ / ______

Sex and neuter status (circle one): MI MC FI FS

Date of vaccination (mo/day/yr): _____ / _____ / ______

Vaccine(s) administered at office visit above:
   Vaccine name:
   Manufacturer:

Did this dog have an allergic reaction after vaccination (circle one)?  YES  NO

Clinical signs of the vaccine-associated allergic reaction (circle primary sign):
   Facial edema  Urticaria  Wheals  Pruritis-generalized
   Periorbital edema  Vomiting

Date of sample collection (mo/day/yr): _____ / _____ / ______

Pet name (optional): ___________________________

Owner name (optional): ___________________________

Would you like to receive the specific test results for this dog after analysis (circle one)?
   YES  NO

Veterinarian’s Name (print): ___________________________  Phone: ___________________________

MAIL TO: Immunopathology Laboratory, Attn: Vaccine Study (VPTH 203),
Dept. of Comparative Pathobiology, 725 Harrison Street, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2027
Client Consent Form
Investigation of Vaccine Reactions in Dogs

Veterinarians at Purdue University's School of Veterinary Medicine, in conjunction with the American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation, are leading a study in 2007-2008 to investigate the causes of allergic-type vaccine reactions in dogs. Some small breeds, such as Dachshunds, Pugs, Boston Terriers, Miniature Pinschers, and Chihuahuas, appear to be more susceptible to these reactions compared to other larger breeds.

The study will involve the collection of a small blood sample (approximately 3-5ml) for analysis. Once analyzed, the collective results from several hundred pets are expected to add important knowledge and understanding of the causes of allergic-type vaccine reactions in small dogs. This information will then provide a valuable impetus to vaccine manufacturers to improve canine vaccines by reducing or removing those chemicals or compounds stimulating reactions.

Your pet matches the criteria (breed, age, health and vaccination history) developed for this study and you agree by signing this form to give permission for your pet to be entered into the study. Your participation is purely voluntary, the test is provided at no cost to you, and only involves the submission of this one blood sample. Specific information that might identify you or your pet will be kept confidential.

One day, vaccine reactions will not be as prevalent as they are today, thanks to the contributions of individual pets like yours. Thank you for agreeing to enter your dog into this study. If you have any questions about this study, please contact Dr. Moore at 765-496-3393 or gmoore@purdue.edu.

Sincerely,

George Moore, DVM, PhD, and Harm HogenEsch, DVM, PhD
Project Investigators, Purdue University

Yes! I agree to the above and want to enter my pet into this vaccine-related study. I understand that there will be no cost to me, and that all samples and information derived from the study will belong to the study sponsor. I understand

Owner Name: ___________________________ Pet Name: ___________________________

Owner Signature: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________

Hospital Name: ___________________________ Hospital Phone: ___________________________