



SHINE ON Phase 3 FAQs

1. IS MY DOG ELIGIBLE FOR TESTING?

To be eligible for Phase 3 testing, your dog MUST:

- A. Be a purebred Golden Retriever, Portuguese Water Dog, or Boxer
 - i. You must provide your dog's AKC number, OR
 - ii. If your dog is unregistered you must provide a pedigree
- B. Be at least 6 years old at time of enrollment
- C. Be in general good health
- D. Live in the 48 contiguous states of the U.S.

2. I KNOW MY DOG IS PUREBRED, BUT I DON'T HAVE AN AKC NUMBER OR PEDIGREE. IS MY DOG ELIGIBLE?

Unfortunately, no. Samples will not be accepted for submission without either an AKC number or pedigree.

3. IS MY DOG ELIGIBLE IF HE/SHE HAS A CHRONIC OR GENETIC DISEASE?

Dogs with certain chronic or genetic conditions, such as elbow or hip dysplasia, uveitis, or well controlled allergies, will be eligible. If you have questions about your dog's health status eligibility, please contact Mitzi Lewellen, study coordinator, at lewel001@umn.edu

4. DOES IT MATTER IF MY DOG IS INTACT, SPAYED, OR NEUTERED?

No! Either gender, intact or altered, is eligible.

5. I'M A VET (OR BREEDER, OR BOTH) -- CAN I DRAW AND SUBMIT MY OWN DOG'S BLOOD?

No, blood must be drawn and submitted by a licensed veterinarian who is not an owner or co-owner of the dog. All reports will be sent to the submitting veterinarian, who will share the results with the owner.

6. MY DOG IS SICK AND I'M WORRIED THAT HE/SHE MAY HAVE CANCER. CAN I SUBMIT BLOOD TO THIS STUDY AND FIND OUT?

This study requires participants to be in good health. If your dog is sick, and especially if you suspect your dog has cancer, we strongly advise having him/her examined by your dog's veterinarian.

7. WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I SUBMIT MY DOG'S BLOOD?

Within about 10 days, the submitting veterinarian will receive a report, and within 3 days should contact the owner with one of the following results:

A. "No re-test required": Some owners will not be asked to submit a second sample from their dog. If scheduling permits and if owners wish to have their dog retested, they will be eligible 90 days after the initial test. It is possible that optional re-testing may not be available for all dogs.

OR

B. "Re-test requested in XX days. We will contact the owner with scheduling dates within one week": Our lab will ask you to submit another blood sample at a specific time. The timing for re-testing is determined by study protocol (randomized) and will have no special meaning. Most dogs will be re-tested between 3 weeks and 3 months apart. Some dogs will be re-tested a third time.

8. THE REPORT MY VET RECEIVED SAYS THAT MY DOG NEEDS TO COME BACK IN FOR RE-TESTING. DOES THIS MEAN MY DOG TESTED POSITIVE AND HAS CANCER?

No. Most re-tests are randomly generated and are intended to determine the study thresholds. However, if we find anything in the sample that is concerning to us, and would impact the health of any dog, we would communicate that information to the submitting veterinarian.

9. WILL MY VETERINARIAN RECEIVE A REPORT THAT IDENTIFIES MY DOG AS "POSITIVE" OR "NEGATIVE?"

Blood samples that do not contain an excess of the circulating cells we are investigating will be considered "negative" but will be reported as "No re-test required." A report of "Re-test requested in XX days" does not necessarily mean an excess of these cells (or what could be considered "positive") was found; most re-tests are randomly generated and are intended to determine the study's thresholds. However, if we find anything in the sample that is concerning to us, and would potentially impact the health of any dog, we would communicate that information to the submitting veterinarian.

10. WHAT HAPPENS IF MY DOG TESTS NEGATIVE AND I WANT HIM/HER RE-TESTED?

If the schedule permits, dogs tested once will be eligible for re-testing 90 days after their initial test, and dogs tested twice will be eligible for re-testing 90 days after their second test. NOTE: Due to the large number of dogs waiting for an initial test, optional re-testing may not be available for all dogs.

11. WHAT HAPPENS IF MY DOG TESTS “POSITIVE” (AN EXCESS OF THE CELLS YOU ARE INVESTIGATING ARE FOUND)?

One of the objectives of the project is to define precisely how many cells in the circulation represent a “positive” test, and what that positive test would mean for the health of a dog. Correlating test results with the possible development of cancer will require long-term follow up for the participating dogs. We have established a threshold for what we consider to be positive at this time, but we expect that the test will continue to be refined over time.

For dogs that have a positive test result, we will include recommendations for follow-up in the report to the veterinarian. These recommendations will include thorough physical examination, routine laboratory tests, and possibly diagnostic imaging to identify if a tumor is present. It is especially important to note that two positive test results do **not** necessarily mean or confirm that your dog has cancer.

A. If, after additional testing, there is no evidence of a detectable tumor, your dog may be eligible for experimental preventative treatment with eBAT, **offered only at the University of Minnesota Veterinary Medical Center**. Treatment with eBAT consists of three doses over a 5-day period. Scheduling for treatment and re-testing will be done for each case individually, with the goal to make the experience, including travel to the Twin Cities, as easy as possible.

OR

B. If a tumor is found, the dog will not be eligible for the experimental treatment, but early detection might improve the potential for successful treatment. It is your responsibility to discuss treatment options with your dog’s veterinarian.

12. MY DOG TESTED POSITIVE, BUT WE CANNOT PARTICIPATE IN EBAT PREVENTION. SHOULD I START CANCER TREATMENTS OR OTHER PREVENTION?

No. A positive test does not necessarily mean or confirm that your dog has cancer. Surgery, chemotherapy, radiation, immunotherapy, herbal or complementary therapies, or any other cancer treatments are not indicated based on the results of this test.

13. MY DOG TESTED NEGATIVE BUT HAS A STRONG FAMILY HISTORY OF HEMANGIOSARCOMA. CAN I BRING MY DOG IN FOR THE EXPERIMENTAL PREVENTATIVE TREATMENT, JUST TO BE SAFE?

No. Only dogs that have a positive test result, as described above, will have the option of receiving the experimental treatment.

14. I HAVE TWO ELIGIBLE DOGS; CAN I ENROLL BOTH OF THEM?

Yes, you may enroll more than one of your dogs, but we will only be able to schedule a certain number of tests each week. When you are contacted to schedule sample submission, it may be necessary to arrange sending samples from each of your dogs on different days (or different weeks), depending on slots available.

15. IF MY DOG IS ELIGIBLE, WHAT IS THE COST OF THE EXPERIMENTAL PREVENTATIVE TREATMENT?

If your dog is eligible, the experimental preventative treatment will be provided at the University of Minnesota Veterinary Medical Center at no cost to you.

16. WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS OF THE EXPERIMENTAL PREVENTATIVE TREATMENT?

The experimental preventative treatment has been given safely to 50 dogs. Possible side effects include a drop-in blood pressure and possibly an increase in laboratory values associated with liver function. In our experience so far, changes in blood pressure have been manageable with injectable saline solution, and the changes in liver values have corrected on their own after a few days.

17. WILL THE STUDY PAY FOR COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH TRAVEL TO THE TWIN CITIES TO RECEIVE THERAPY?

Unfortunately, study funds are not available to pay for travel costs.

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