



Midland Boxer Club

2 April 2015

Dear Mr Rallings

My name is Lisa and I am the owner of the Australian canine cancer website <http://caninecancer.org.au>. Cancer affects one in three dogs in their lifetime. The website has not only the support of Australian oncologists who have contributed articles and checked all medical material for accuracy, but they also answer the questions from dog owner's on our forum. <http://www.caninecancer.org.au/cancerforum.html>

The purpose of the website is not only to educate dog owner's on cancer in terminology they will understand, but to try to provide researchers a forum to get their projects out there for owner participation both in Australia and overseas. In Australia for example we have a major osteosarcoma trial that is running in conjunction with human hospitals in Brisbane. Both humans and dogs get many of the same cancers. <http://www.caninecancer.org.au/ausresearch.html> We are a big supporter of the Animal Health Trust in the UK and have contributed significantly to their research efforts <http://www.caninecancer.org.au/researchuk.html>. I am really proud of the fact our overseas following is about 50/50 with Australia. The information is relevant to our dogs no matter where they are located.

The other important purpose of the website is to try to help with research. One of the reasons, in talking to many scientists that it is taking longer to get real answers regarding cancer, is because they need samples to complete studies. As a result of this particular need, I try to raise awareness of how dog owner's can help with various research pages, not just for Australians but for USA and the UK.

I am hoping that your club might be able to assist with some research from the Animal Health Trust in the UK. They need samples from Boxers worldwide that are affected by Glioma, Lymphoma and Mast Cell Tumour. All that is required is a simple cheek swab and a copy of the pathology report. The kits are provided free of charge. Supporters of my website believed in this research enough to ensure that the kits were donated to the AHT so that dog owners were not charged for the supply of these kits. If we don't get participation the studies can't be undertaken. Samples are also needed from healthy Boxers over 7 that have never had cancer.

Also needed is tissue samples from any purebred dog with the following cancers. Glioma, Mast Cell Tumour, Lymphoma, Meningioma and Soft Tissue Sarcoma. Tissue samples are the "Gold" for a scientist. The best way that this could be achieved is if the vet is intending to remove a tumour, he cuts a piece off and pops it into the freezer, with the remaining part sent off for pathology. If it comes back that it is one of those listed tumours, a special preservative can be requested from the AHT and once it arrives the vet can put the frozen piece into the preservative and send it back to the AHT. Precise instructions for vets are on the website and it is suggested a copy of this is given to the vet prior to any surgery. It is very important that the right preservative is used. The other important thing is that the consent form from the AHT which is also on the page must be signed and given to your vet prior to surgery. The consent form goes back to the AHT with the sample, a copy

of the pathology report and copy of the 3 generation breed line. If these tissue samples could be found, this would help tremendously with helping to find cures and better treatments for our dogs. Both the tissue samples and the cheek swabs are open to dogs worldwide.

If your club knows of any dogs that may be able to assist with this, it would be much appreciated. If you would like any more information, including the request for a kit, you will find it all on the UK Research page. <http://www.caninecancer.org.au/researchuk.html>

Thanking you in advance Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Kindest regards
Lisa