

If we continue to follow in the footsteps of human lymphoma studies, veterinary medicine may be on the way to curing this dreaded cancer.





Since beginning her holistically oriented veterinary practice over 30 years ago, Deva Khalsa VMD has been incorporating homeopathy, acupuncture, Chinese herbs, nutritional advice, and allergy elimination techniques such as Allergy Elimination and JMT into her approach. Today her work is a blend of sophisticated holistic techniques and traditional veterinary medicine designed to best enhance the natural strengths and attributes of her patient. She is available for worldwide consults by contacting her online at doctordeva.com



esearch that began in the 1940s is now being used to strengthen the cells of the immune system in the fight against lymphoma. Using this updated therapy in my own practice, I've had encouraging results that far surpass the damage and destruction of chemotherapy.

But first, some background.

WHAT IS LYMPHOMA?

Lymphoma or lymphosarcoma describes a group of cancers derived from the lymphocytes (white blood cells) in your dog's body. Lymphocytes work to protect the body from infection. Although this kind of cancer can affect just about any organ of the body, lymphoma commonly arises in organs that have an immune system function. A dog's lymph nodes are full of lymphocytes and this cancer appears in their lymph nodes more commonly than in the other organs.

By far the most common type of lymphoma in the dog is multicentric lymphoma, in which the cancer first becomes apparent in a dog's lymph nodes. Other common lymphomas in dogs include cutaneous lymphoma (lymphoma of the skin), alimentary or gastrointestinal lymphoma (lymphoma of the stomach and/or intestines) and mediastinal lymphoma (lymphoma involving organs within the chest such as lymph nodes or the thymus gland).

WHAT CAUSES LYMPHOMA?

Viruses, bacteria, exposure to toxins and ELF (extremely low frequency) magnetic fields have all been investigated, but the cause of this cancer nonetheless remains unclear to researchers at veterinary schools. Suppression of the immune system is a known risk factor for the development of lymphoma in humans.

Humans on immune-suppressing drugs following organ transplant surgery have an increased incidence of lymphoma. Immune-suppressing drugs such as cyclosporine are routinely and dismissively used in dogs with allergies and autoimmune disease over long periods of time.

Kinases are important messengers in the body that help prevent cancer. Kinases are the repair and regeneration mechanism of the body. They transmit signals between the cells. The loss of function of kinases in humans has also been found to cause cancer. Apoquel, another common product used for allergies in dogs, works by destroying and inhibiting the function of some important kinases in the body, breaking down the dog's immune defenses.

BREED PREDISPOSITION

Golden Retrievers are at significant risk for lymphoma. Researchers studying cancer in the breed in the United States have identified common

CHEMOTHERAPY AND CANCER

Chemotherapy attacks the rapidly dividing cells and, as the cells that make up the immune system fall into this category, we're just working against the body in the long run. As the cancer is destroyed, so are the cells of the immune system.

Chemotherapy can give a dog with lymphosarcoma the benefit of a remission of cancer. After a period of months, dogs who have successfully gone into remission will then experience a relapse of lymphoma, and sometimes another remission can be achieved after a second round of chemotherapy. The median length of survival of the most common form of lymphoma is nine to 13 months according to Purdue University Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

Eventually, most lymphomas develop resistance to all chemotherapeutic drugs. Certain types, such as T-cell lymphoma, don't even respond well to chemotherapy. That said, chemotherapy can add months to the life of a patient if his type of lymphoma is responsive to the chemo drugs.

genetic alterations. These gene mutations modify the regulation of the immune system's surveillance for tumor cells. Interestingly, Golden Retrievers bred in England don't have this genetic fault.

CONVENTIONAL TREATMENT OF HUMAN LYMPHOMA HAS COME A LONG WAY

While chemotherapy for dogs would not be my chosen route and I believe there may be other more effective protocols, I think it's important we all understand the mechanisms of lymphoma and the options for treatment. Many dogs now get cancer and many of them get lymphoma yet pet owners are left in the dark about what's really happening and how veterinary therapies will actually work.

Years ago the World Health Organization's (WHO) classification of lymphomas in people was routine because different categories of lymphomas would have different regimes. For instance, if Epstein-Barr virus was found in your lymphoma, an anti viral medication was administered to handle the viral infection because this would, in fact, cure the lymphoma. Indolent (slow growing) lymphomas, if pathogens are found in the cytology, have an effective mode of treatment with antiviral or antibacterial drugs. Of course, this tells us that the presence of the pathogen is etiologic (the cause of the disease).

People who have transplants and get cyclosporine or any other immunosuppressive drugs tend to get more cases of viral and bacterial induced lymphoma. So medical doctors were classifying lymphomas to see if they were virally induced and, if needed, to develop an effective chemotherapy program.

In humans, Hodgkin's lymphoma is a curable disease but in dogs, no matter what kind of lymphoma they have, we only achieve a temporary remission with chemotherapy. One reason for this is because dogs can't tolerate high doses of chemotherapy drugs. Plus, veterinary studies are lagging way behind human studies, although veterinary medicine has recently begun to classify lymphomas in the distant footsteps of the WHO.

It's actually very exciting in human medicine. There is currently something called the Match trial where researchers are concerned about the genetic defect in the tumor alone. Once they find the genetic defect (they don't care what kind of tumor it is), they target the growth pathway. That's called targeted therapy.

But dogs today are getting traditional chemotherapy, not the targeted stuff they're giving humans. The WHO classification of lymphoma is old news as traditional chemotherapy is being replaced by genetic studies, and targeted chemotherapy for humans is now based on these results. In humans, it's less and less about what you call the tumor and more about the genetic makeup of the tumor.

BACK TO DOGS

For many years, lymphomas in dogs have been stained to differentiate between T-cell and B-cell lymphomas. T-cell lymphoma is generally more resistant to chemotherapy.

Lymphomas that respond to traditional chemotherapy do so because they are growing fast, while indolent lymphomas don't respond well. This is because, by the time the chemo drug gets to the tumor, at least half of it has been metabolized by the body.

T-cell lymphoma is a viral lymphoma. It's been found in humans and in chimps. T-cell lymphomas may or may not be indolent but they do tend to be more aggressive. T-cells don't respond to chemo in either humans and dogs because researchers simply have not found a chemo program the T-cells will respond to. You see, if the chemo drug can get itself incorporated into the cellular mechanism of the cancer cell it will self-destruct, but if the chemo doesn't get incorporated into the cancer cell it just doesn't work at all.

CURING LYMPHOMA HOLISTICALLY

In more than 30 years of practice, I've tried just about everything to cure lymphoma in dogs. I was fortunate that many corporations making holistically oriented, innovative and effective products for cancer in humans used my practice to do clinical studies. Most dog owners don't choose chemotherapy for their pets even though the vast majority of people go straight for chemotherapy for their own cancers. This was a chance for these corporations

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to see how their product worked as a sole therapy. Some products worked incredibly well on lung cancer while others worked a miracle with malignant melanomas. Yet, every one of these treatments was ineffective for lymphoma cases. I also tried every regime in my repertoire.

STEM CELL-TARGETING THERAPY

About a year ago, I began working with a Swiss stem cell-targeting product imported from France that works incredibly well on many illnesses and diseases. Now, it's important to know that these products are not at all like the stem cells derived from a dog's fat or bone marrow. They are not made from tissue from your dog's body but are created to target a disease in order to regenerate or cure. We were pleased that diseases such as cancer, autoimmune problems, heart conditions, arthritis, neurological problems, liver failure, kidney failure, IBD and chronic infections tended to respond remarkably well. But remember, my thwarted ambition was to cure lymphoma cases.

The Swiss have always been the pioneers of stem cell research. Starting in the 1940s, some of the first recipients of this therapy were Pope Pius XII, Charles De Gaulle, Dwight D Eisenhower, Sir Winston Churchill, the Duke and Duchess of Windsor, political patriarch Joseph Kennedy and Charlie Chaplin. Stem cells have come a long way since that time. The product I use is not one that can be researched on the web and it's only available to doctors.

This stem cell-targeting product works as a cellular renovation therapy containing

embryonic growth factors that communicate with the cells. The kinases and cytokines make immune system cells renew and reconstruct. The product contains elements of the pathways of glutathione, the most important antioxidant in the body. It contains glutathione transferase, glutathione peroxidase, glutathione reductase along with superoxide dismutase. In addition, enzyme complexes and fructo-oligosacharide prebiotic complexes clean up any oxidation in the body and create oxygenation of the tissues. The organ is targeted with special cell parts that help the reconstruction of cells and revitalize the organ or organs.

SUCCESSFUL TREATMENT

Imagine my elation when I was presented with my first case of lymphoma. I could hardly contain myself. It was the perfect case. Star is an eight-year-old Miniature Dachshund and she hadn't responded to a long course of chemotherapy for her indolent T-cell lymphoma. She was sent home on prednisolone to live out what was left of her life. The long program of chemotherapy had depleted her. Star was completely exhausted.

Star needed to start with a special product that would reboot her system after the chemo – even before we began the stem cell-targeting program. The product was shipped to her owners and injections began. Within two weeks of starting the program, Star was running and playing with the rest of the 16 other Miniature Dachshunds at home. "She's like a puppy – she's a new dog!" I was told.

"Have you felt the lymph nodes?" I asked the owners with mixed impatience and In humans, Hodgkin's lymphoma is a curable disease but in dogs, no matter what kind of lymphoma they have, we only achieve a temporary remission with chemotherapy. One reason for this is because dogs can't tolerate high doses of chemotherapy drugs.

excitement. Before, they were so large they could see them easily (even though she was on large doses of prednisolone). Now they couldn't find them! Three weeks later their veterinarian palpated normal sized lymph nodes. Our therapy lasted for a month, was done completely at home, and Star has been fine ever since. It's been well over a year now.

Since treating Star, I've treated many cases of lymphoma in both cats and dogs. Every patient except one appears to have recovered fully. Interestingly, feline patients with lymphoma (and many of them were weak, lethargic and not eating) start to play and feel great in only four days! Only time will tell, but the results so far have been very encouraging.

It's with great satisfaction and delight that I can finally hope to see a cure for lymphoma. Only time will tell but the results have already surpassed what is promised by routine chemotherapy.

