

Fall / Winter 2018

Questions? Comments?
Suggestions?

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The WFA continues to be very grateful for its exemplary Board of Directors and Advisory Council. At the Annual Board meeting on October 4, 2018, in Exton, PA, the board elected Randy Cantrell and Dean Nelson to the Board of Directors and honored Fred Askin, MD with his election to the Advisory Council. Mr. Cantrell is a coach in executive/CEO leadership and Mr. Nelson is a Certified Public Accountant (retired). Dr. Askin is a pathologist at John Hopkins Hospital and professor of pathology at the John Hopkins University School of Medicine. We thank these gentlemen for volunteering to serve and share their knowledge and experience.



Bebe Pinter

In this issue start reading about the Digestive System's Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) from our **The Westie Health Book**. Subtopics include: How does a dog develop IBD? What are the clinical signs of IBD? How is IBD diagnosed? and Treatment of IBD. Dietary changes are one of the most important components of treatment.

Teresa Barnes, vice president communications, provides an in depth view of grassroots fundraising with her article "*Westie Owners Launch GoFundme Page, Raise Funds for Innovative IPF Study*". On behalf of the board of directors, we sincerely thank PJ Kessler and the team for taking an active role.

Thank you to Drs. Borgatti, Fahrenkrug, and Modiano, Animal Cancer Care and Research Program, University of Minnesota for their report "*Studying Cancer in Dogs as a Path Towards a World Where We No Longer Fear Cancer—A Contemporary Update on Canine Hemangiosarcoma*". According to their report, Hemangiosarcoma is most common in dogs and research shows promising results in regards to treatments and early detection.

The next article is "*Canine Transitional Cell Carcinoma (TCC) /Urothelial Carcinoma (UC) bladder cancer in dogs—New research provides an opportunity*

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for early detection in the West Highland White Terrier” by Drs. Matthew Breen and Shelly Vaden, North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine. According to the authors this cancer is the most common of the canine urinary tract and occurs in about 1-2% of all canines. Early detection is key to helping our Westies.

The final article “Let the IRS Help” is contributed by Tom Barrie, WFA director. Mr. Barrie provides numerous effective and tax-efficient ways beneficial to donors in supporting Westie health research through the WFA.

We need your help and encourage you to support our mission by becoming an annual WFA donor. We are an active board for a canine foundation that is making real progress to improve health in the West Highland White Terrier breed. You may contact Jim McCain, Donor Manager at donormanager@westiefoundation.org or visit our website www.westiefoundation.org for assistance. In addition, I would be delighted to visit with you about what the WFA has accomplished and major projects and research underway.

Thank you for your continued involvement and support of the WFA but most of all, your love of Westies!

Bebe Pinter



The Westie Foundation of America, Inc is a nonprofit corporation, recognized by the IRS as a 501 (C) (3) organization. The mission of the Foundation is to advance and support medical research to benefit the health and quality of life of West Highland White Terriers: and to further develop and communicate information regarding the health, care, breeding and quality of life of Westies to Westie owners, Westie breeders and veterinarians.



Request for Samples

RESEARCH PROJECT	SAMPLES NEEDED	CONTACT INFORMATION
Genetic marker for Atopic Dermatitis	Saliva swabs or blood samples from dogs with skin disease or from normal dogs 5 years of age or older from family lines free of allergies	Kim Williams North Carolina State University 919-513-7235 kdwilli4@ncsu.edu
Genetic susceptibility of Transitional Cell Carcinoma (TCC) (Bladder Cancer)	Blood samples from dogs diagnosed with TCC and dogs over the age of nine who have no known cancers	Gretchen Carpintero Ostrander Lab National Human Genome Research Institute 301-451-9390 Dog_genome@mail.nih.gov
Genetic marker for Addison's Disease	DNA from cheek cells and/or blood from affected dogs and unaffected dogs over the age of 7	Dr. A.M. Oberbauer UC Veterinary School (Davis) 530-752-4997 http://cgap.ucdavis.edu/
Clinical Features and Genetic Basis of Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF)	Blood samples from dogs diagnosed with PF and healthy dogs over age 8 without lung disease	Drs. Ned Patterson and Peter Bitterman Katie Minor (contact) University of Minnesota 612-624-5322 minork@umn.edu
Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF)	Cheek and/or blood samples from dogs diagnosed with pulmonary fibrosis	Dr. Victor J. Thannickal University of Alabama Sample collection coordinated by Dr. Pamela Whiting, DVM pgwhitingdvm@aol.com 707-529-9222 (cell/text) 707-837-8101 (clinic)
Dry Eye Syndrome (keratoconjunctivitis sicca)	Dogs diagnosed with dry eye and dogs over 7 years old with no ocular abnormalities *participants must be available for appointments at UC Davis Veterinary Center (CA)	Dr. Sara Thomasy UC Veterinary School (Davis) 530-752-1770 smthomasy@ucdavis.edu
Mechanisms of Allergic Disease (Atopic Dermatitis)	Blood samples from allergic dogs and non-allergic dogs	Elia Tait Wojno, PhD Cornell University of Veterinary Medicine 607-256-5635 Edt42@cornell.edu

For more information about any of the above projects visit www.westiefoundation.org