



Cairn Terrier Ocular Melanosis



LOOKING FOR PARTICIPANTS

The **Comparative Genetics Laboratory at the University of Wisconsin Veterinary School** is beginning a new project investigating ocular melanosis in Cairn Terriers.

We are interested in what specific genetic component of Cairn Terriers in this breed makes the condition so prevalent. We are actively writing grants for this work, and need to start collecting samples so when funding becomes available, we can start on Day 1!

Studying diseases in rare breeds is difficult, but new technologies are providing opportunities to investigate the genetic basis of diseases with fewer dogs that have historically been needed. **We are looking to collect saliva and blood samples from a select number of dogs.** These saliva/blood samples need to be collected specifically for this study due to the advanced technology that we will be using for this work. **We are also seeking pedigrees of any Cairn Terrier.**

Specifically, we are seeking:

- 1) Purebred Cairn Terriers who have developed ocular melanosis.
- 2) Purebred Cairn Terriers over 12 years of age who have not developed ocular melanosis.



We can have samples shipped to our laboratory, so you are not required to come to the University of Wisconsin for participation.

Participation is free, and we are not asking for monetary donations. For owners/animals not able to come to UW-Madison, we cover all costs associated with sending saliva swab kits and blood packages.

We would be grateful if you have a dog or know of dogs/litters that could participate in this work. All identification will remain confidential, as we understand this can be a sensitive issue.

The best way to contact us is through e-mail: genetics@vetmed.wisc.edu or by phone: (608) 265-5828. Alternatively, you can contact us through our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/SVMgenetics>

Please consider joining our Team as we start to investigate the genetic basis of ocular melanosis in Cairn Terrier!!

