Stem Cell Therapy for Cats with Chronic Non-Responsive Gingivostomatitis

GOALS Feline chronic gingivostomatitis (FCGS) is a poorly defined disease which causes severe and painful inflammation affecting the gums and the back of the mouth. Currently, no treatments that are available are ideal, predictable and without possible complications. In prior studies in over 20 cats, IV administration of a cat’s own stem cells were shown to not only be safe, but, in most cases (about 70%), substantially improved or completely resolved the stomatitis. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to treat cats for which all current treatment modalities have failed and have a poor quality of life.

ELIGIBILITY Cats diagnosed with gingivostomatitis that have had full-mouth dental extractions performed and have been refractory for at least six months. Cats cannot be receiving or have received in the 14 days prior any local or systemic antibiotics or immunosuppressive medications (i.e. steroids, cyclosporine.)

COMPENSATION Owners pay for the examination fee and any necessary diagnostics needed to determine candidacy in the study. Owners are also responsible for the cost of any take home medications and complications/adverse events during the study. All other procedures are covered by the study.

OWNER RESPONSIBILITY The initial appointment will include the examination and diagnostics to determine eligibility. If eligible, your cat will go under anesthesia and have an oral biopsy and collection of fat for the production of stem cells. After the stem cells are processed (about two weeks) your cat will return to Cornell for two treatments while under anesthesia one month apart. Additional recheck visits are also required at 3 and 6 months after the initial treatment for examinations and a sedated oral biopsy at the final visit. Veterinarians and owners will be blinded as to whether each patient receives his/her own stem cells or a placebo. If your cat receives the placebo you will have the opportunity at the end of treatment to have the stem cell injections.

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