



RESEARCH STUDY NEEDS YOUR HELP!

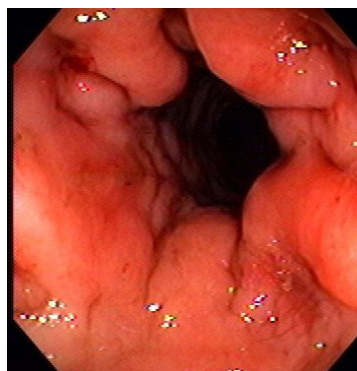
HISTIOCYTIC ULCERATIVE COLITIS IN BOXER DOGS

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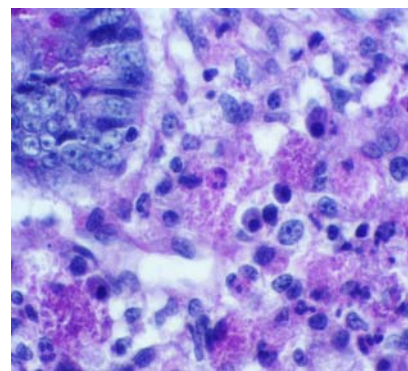
Dr. Kenny Simpson and colleagues at Cornell University are studying **Histiocytic Ulcerative Colitis** (HUC - also known as granulomatous colitis). HUC is a chronic, severe gastrointestinal disease of typically seen in young Boxer dogs. Affected dogs usually present with signs of large bowel disease, initially frequent bloody mucoid stools, often progressing to chronic debilitation, weight loss, anemia, and hypoalbuminemia. Clinical signs are usually unresponsive to immunosuppressive therapy, and recent work strongly suggests a breed-specific defect in host defence is linked to invasion and persistence of *E. coli* within the colonic mucosa.^{1,2}



Emaciated young Boxer dog affected with HUC



Endoscopic appearance of inflamed and ulcerated colonic mucosa



Characteristic histiocytic inflammation with PAS+ macrophages

To enable effective screening and eradication of HUC we are trying to identify the genetic basis of HUC in Boxer dogs.

We would really appreciate your help collecting DNA and serum samples from affected Boxers.

Patients suitable for inclusion are Boxer dogs (of any age or sex), with a definitive diagnosis of HUC, i.e. a diagnostic histopathology report describing histiocytic ulcerative colitis with PAS+ macrophages. The samples we need from affected dogs are:

1. **DNA** in the form of a 5ml sample of EDTA whole blood.
2. **Serum** (red top tube, ideally 2mls of separated serum) to look for aberrant immune responses.
3. **Pedigree information if available**
4. **A copy of the histopathology report**
5. Similar samples from affected parents and siblings would be very helpful if available.
6. If you are in a position to send endoscopic colonic biopsies from potentially affected Boxer dogs that would also be very useful (please contact us for further information).

Sample submission forms may be obtained here, or by contacting: Melanie Craven, Email: mdc57@cornell.edu, tel: 607-253-3567.

1 Simpson KW et al. Adherent and invasive Escherichia coli is associated with granulomatous colitis in boxer dogs. *Infection and Immunity* 2006 74(8):4778-92.

2 Hostutler, R. A. et al. 2004. Antibiotic-responsive histiocytic ulcerative colitis in 9 dogs. *Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine* 18:499-504.

BOXER HUC STUDY: SAMPLE SUBMISSION FORM

Checklist for patient suitability:

- 1. Boxer dog of any age or sex.**
- 2. Confirmed diagnosis of HUC with histopathology report.**
- 3. Pedigree and sibling information is very helpful, although not essential.**

Sample submitted: EDTA Serum Histology report endoscopic biopsies
(we are unable to include samples without a diagnostic histology report)

Case ID: _____ Sex: F M Neutered

Age: _____ Submitting veterinarian: _____

Tel: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Clinical signs: _____

Response to treatment: _____

American Kennel Club registered title (if available): _____

Other known diseases: _____

Additional information (e.g. affected relatives - continue overleaf): _____

**Mailing address for samples: HUC STUDY, Simpson Laboratory, C2-006
VMC, Tower Road, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14853.** For further
information, please contact: Melanie Craven, Email: mdc57@cornell.edu, tel: 607-253-3567.