



# Uncovering Mechanisms of Post-Procedural Low Calcium in Dogs with Hyperparathyroidism

**GOALS** Hyperparathyroidism is a disease whereby overactive parathyroid glands produce unchecked amounts of parathyroid hormone that leads to excessive levels of circulating calcium which can have serious consequences. Primary hyperparathyroidism in dogs can be successfully treated by removal or ablation of the affected glands. These procedures are relatively simple, associated with low morbidity and require only minimal aftercare; however, the most common complication following treatment is low calcium levels (hypocalcemia). Hypocalcemia can be a serious complication that, if left untreated, can result in excitation of the nervous system (i.e. tetany and seizures) and life threatening heart abnormalities. Currently there are no reliable markers or indicators to determine which dogs undergoing treatment of hyperparathyroidism will develop hypocalcemia. Current standard of care is to hospitalize all dogs post-procedure to monitor serum calcium levels. This study aims to provide veterinarians with an ability to predict the likelihood of the development of this complication and therefore intervene pre or post-procedurally to reduce or eliminate it.

**ELIGIBILITY** Any dog diagnosed with primary hyperparathyroidism undergoing treatment via either surgical removal or ethanol ablation at the Cornell University Hospital for Animals.

**COMPENSATION** There are no costs to you for your dog to participate in the study. The cost of the extra samples run are being covered by the study. The cost of any tests or procedures that are considered standard of care in the treatment of primary hyperparathyroidism including clinically necessary bloodwork, surgery, aftercare and follow-up treatment are not covered by the study and are the responsibility of the owner.

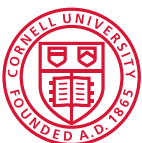


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