Cancer is a highly emotive word and a diagnosis can be life changing. However, rapid advancements in oncology mean that some types of cancer are now treatable, manageable and possibly even preventable.

Cancer no longer has to be the worst-case scenario. Early detection is arguably one of our most powerful tools in veterinary oncology and powerful progress is being made.

We believe using the Nu.Q® Vet Cancer Screening Test can help streamline the diagnostic process, shortening the path to diagnosis and thereby allowing treatment to be initiated earlier.

Introduce the Nu.Q® Vet Cancer Screening Test as part of your annual wellness check of older dogs (7 years and older).

Consider using the Nu.Q® Vet Cancer Screening Test for younger dogs (4 years and older) with an increased risk for developing cancer in their lifetimes such as, Golden Retrievers, Boxers, Flat Coated Retrievers, Beagles, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Rottweilers and Shetland Sheepdogs as they age.

How to order:
Samples will be run through the Texas A&M GI Laboratory.

To submit a sample:

- Patients should be fasted (minimum four hours) for this test to be accurate
- Draw down 2-5 mL of blood from a peripheral vein
- Immediately fill EDTA tube(s) with blood
- Spin the sample in-house at 3000xg for 10 minutes and transfer plasma into a fresh tube within one-hour of sampling
- Ship overnight on ice but If samples cannot be shipped on day of collection, store plasma in freezer and ship within 3 days
- Reduced FedEx shipping is available through the GI lab website

How to Interpret the results of the Nu.Q® Vet Cancer Screening Test

Low

Result: <57.4 ng/mL
Cancer Suspicion Level: Low

Plasma nucleosome concentrations ranging from 0-57.4 ng/mL are consistent with those found in healthy animals of over the age of 1 year and all genders. Not all neoplastic conditions are detectable using elevated plasma nucleosome concentrations. If clinically indicated, additional tests such as a CBC, Chemistry, Urinalysis, Cytology/Biopsy, and/or Imaging may be needed to confirm or deny the suspicion of cancer in your patient.

Moderate

Result: 57.4-67.4 ng/mL
Cancer Suspicion Level: Moderate

Plasma nucleosome concentrations ranging from 57.4-67.4 ng/mL can be seen in early-stage cancer or cancers with low levels of circulating nucleosomes. Elevated nucleosome concentrations have been demonstrated in a variety of common cancers including lymphoma and hemangiosarcoma. This test is not able to differentiate severe inflammation from cancer. Additional tests may be needed to confirm or deny the suspicion of cancer in your patient.

If your patient is otherwise healthy, we recommend repeating the test in 2-4 weeks.

If there is a high suspicion of cancer or if the Nu.Q® result remains elevated after retesting in your patient we recommend additional testing such as a CBC, Chemistry, Urinalysis, Cytology/Biopsy, and/or Imaging to look for possible cancer in this patient.

High

Result: 67.4-600 ng/mL
Cancer Suspicion Level: High

Plasma nucleosome concentrations ranging from 67.4-600 ng/mL are consistent with those found in common canine cancers including lymphoma and hemangiosarcoma. This test is not able to differentiate severe/systemic inflammation from cancer. Additional tests such as a CBC, Chemistry, Urinalysis, Cytology/Biopsy, and/or Imaging may be needed to confirm or deny the suspicion of cancer in your patient.

High to Very High

Result: >600 ng/mL
Cancer Suspicion Level: High to Very High

Plasma nucleosome concentrations >600 ng/mL are consistent with common canine cancers including lymphoma and hemangiosarcoma. This test is not able to differentiate severe/systemic inflammation from cancer. Additional tests such as a CBC, Chemistry, Urinalysis, Cytology/Biopsy, and/or Imaging may be needed to confirm or deny the suspicion of cancer in your patient.

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* Dogs that have not been fasted may have artificially elevated nucleosome levels and should be retested after fasting
** This test is not able to differentiate severe inflammation from cancer therefore, if clinically indicated, additional tests may be needed to confirm or deny the suspicion of cancer in your patient.