



Your best friend deserves the best care.

If your dog is at risk for cancer, annual lymphoma screenings are essential.

Cancer is the leading cause of death in adult dogs. And lymphoma is one of the most common types of cancer.¹ So if your dog is at risk* for cancer, including lymphoma, it's important to stay vigilant with annual cancer screenings as part of your pet's routine wellness testing. Because when we find cancer early, we can fight it early.

All dogs



High-risk breeds



Looking for lymphoma.

One of the most common types of canine cancer is lymphoma, a blood cancer affecting the lymphatic system. Visible signs can vary. Some dogs show no signs, while others may experience weight loss, vomiting, diarrhea, new lumps on the body, or difficulty breathing. Lymphoma can progress quickly in dogs, often without showing visible signs until it's too late. That's why it's important to screen for lymphoma regularly. With regular screenings, we have a better chance of detecting lymphoma early.

A simple blood test with extraordinary possibilities.

Cancer detection has come a long way. Based on early data, IDEXX Cancer Dx™ testing can detect lymphoma from a single blood sample, even in dogs who don't show signs.² So if your dog is at risk for lymphoma, talk with your veterinarian about regular screenings.

Wellness starts with a plan.

How do you know if your dog is at-risk for cancer? Once your dog reaches 7 years old, regular screenings are an essential part of keeping them healthy. But some breeds should start screening at 4 years old. Talk with your veterinarian to determine your dog's risk of developing cancer so you can develop a healthcare plan that meets your needs.

The following breeds are at higher risk for cancer:

Labrador retriever
French bulldog
Golden retriever
German shepherd
Beagle
Rottweiler
Boxer
Pembroke Welsh corgi

Great Dane
Miniature schnauzer
Siberian husky
Bernese mountain dog
Mastiff
Irish wolfhound
Flat-coated retriever
Scottish wolfhound

When it comes to cancer, negative is a good thing.

Just like people, dogs at risk for cancer should get screened regularly. And while most tests will come back not consistent with lymphoma, the best way to find lymphoma early is to screen for it regularly. A result not consistent with lymphoma doesn't guarantee that your dog won't develop lymphoma or another type of cancer in the future.

What to expect from a positive result.

If your dog's test results are consistent with lymphoma, your veterinarian may recommend a recheck in 4–8 weeks or additional evaluations, depending on signs. For confirmed lymphoma cases, next steps could include referral to a specialist or discussing treatment options like chemotherapy, radiation therapy, surgery or palliative care. Many dogs tolerate chemotherapy well, maintaining a good quality of life throughout treatment.^{3,4} Regular screenings are key to ensuring timely and accurate care.

The best gift you can give your dog? Old age.

Cancer screening is just a small part of a dog's healthcare plan. Along with diet, exercise, routine screening, and a loving family, you and your veterinarian can help your dog live a long, healthy life.

Want to learn more? Visit wearethecure.org and fetchacure.org.

Discuss screening for lymphoma with your veterinarian.

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*At-risk dogs include all dogs ≥ 7 years old and high-risk breeds ≥ 4 years old.

References

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