



# Cornell University Veterinary Specialists

## Canine Clinical Trial



## The Effect of Hematocrit on Viscoelastic Coagulation Monitor Values in Dogs

It is often important to determine a patient's risk for bleeding or for excessive coagulation (clotting). However, traditional and widely available tests for blood coagulation, while useful for diagnosing certain blood clotting abnormalities, are extremely poor indicators of a patient's overall coagulation competence. Viscoelastic coagulation testing, such as thromboelastography (TEG) and rotational thromboelastometry (ROTEM), have been shown to give a far more accurate assessment of overall coagulation in both humans and animals, but these tests are not widely available. A new viscoelastic device, the viscoelastic coagulation monitor (VCM-Vet), is now available to veterinarians and its use is increasing. But there remain some unanswered questions. It has been clearly shown that TEG and ROTEM results are affected by anemia, but the effect of anemia on VCM variables is not known and cannot be inferred from the TEG or ROTEM due to the difference in the test methodology.

The goal of this prospective clinical trial is to determine the effect of anemia on VCM tracings in dogs by testing dogs with naturally-occurring anemia before and after blood transfusion.

### ELIGIBILITY

Anemic dogs, weighing at least 5.5 kgs, that are going to receive a red blood cell transfusion.

### STUDY OVERVIEW

Dogs will have a sample of blood collected within one hour of the start and finish of the transfusion. This is usual practice to check the red blood cell count. VCM testing will be performed simultaneously.

### COMPENSATION, FUNDING

This study is funded by the CUVS Cares Partners in Discovery Fund and covers the costs of VCM testing.

### PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

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Interested in  
participating?

For questions or more information on the study, contact our research coordinator at [research@cuvs.org](mailto:research@cuvs.org) or 203.595.2777.