

PROTECT

Pimobendan Randomized **O**ccult DCM **T**rial to **E**valuate **C**linical Symptoms & **T**ime to Heart Failure

We are still searching for Dobermans with preclinical DCM

The cardiologists at the Ontario Veterinary College are looking for Dobermans between 5 and 9 years of age who are not showing clinical signs of heart disease. These dogs are needed for a study called **PROTECT**. The PROTECT study assesses the effect of pimobendan in delaying the onset of clinical heart disease and improving the long-term survival of Dobermans with pre-clinical dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM).

Advantages of participating in this study:

- The dogs receive an extensive cardiac evaluation that is heavily subsidized by the study's sponsor.
- Regular clinical examinations/consultations with OVC cardiologists Dr. Lynne O'Sullivan or Dr. Mike O'Grady will allow early detection of dilated cardiomyopathy should it develop.
- The referring veterinarian is updated on the dog's status after each appointment with the OVC cardiology service.

Additional information regarding the timetable and inclusion criteria for the PROTECT study are provided below.

Feel free to contact Cindy Walker at the OVC cardiology service at **519-824-4120 X 54047** if you would like more information on the study or if you would like to refer a Doberman that meets the qualifying criteria.

The participation of the referring veterinarian is essential to the success of this study. We would also appreciate you sharing this information with other veterinarians in your practice and your clients.

We look forward to hearing from you.
Thank you.

Timetable for the PROTECT Study

Pre-inclusion/screening Cost to owner is \$100.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation/clinical cardiology examination • Clinical pathology tests: CBC, Profile, total T4 • Echocardiograph to confirm presence of occult (pre-clinical) dilated cardiomyopathy • Electrocardiograph (for 3 minutes) • Holter monitoring over 24 hours to assess VPCs
1 month No cost to owner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation/clinical cardiology examination • Clinical pathology tests: CBC, Profile, total T4 • Echocardiograph • Holter monitoring
6 month Cost to owner is \$100.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation/clinical examination • Echocardiograph • Electrocardiograph
12 month Cost to owner is \$100.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation/clinical examination • Echocardiograph • Electrocardiograph
18 and 24 month Cost to owner is \$100.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation/clinical examination • Echocardiograph • Electrocardiograph
30 month Cost to owner is \$100.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation/clinical examination • Echocardiograph • Electrocardiograph

Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria

- Dogs must be 5-9 years of age
- Must be purebred Dobermans, pedigree certificate provided by owner if possible
- No clinical signs or history of congestive heart failure,
- No clearly defined episode of syncope in the previous 6 months
- Not on cardiovascular or respiratory medications or having received same during the previous 6 months
- Not on systemic corticosteroid therapy
- No general anesthetic in the previous 28 days
- No female dog that is pregnant, lactating or intended for breeding
- Not previously diagnosed with a survival limiting disease (e.g. cancer)

OVC Cardiology Service: 519-824-4120 X 54047