

RESEARCH MAY LEAD TO EARLIER IDENTIFICATION OF GI DISEASE IN DOGS

March 11, 2025

THE DISCOVERY HAS THE POTENTIAL TO BE LIFESAVING FOR CERTAIN BREEDS

RESEARCH IDENTIFIES BIOMARKERS FOR EARLY DETECTION OF GASTROINTESTINAL DISEASE IN DOGS

A recent study conducted by the Texas A&M Gastrointestinal Laboratory (GI Lab) has identified specific biomarkers that may allow for the early detection of gastrointestinal (GI) disease in dogs prior to the onset of clinical signs. This discovery, published in the Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine, focused on soft-coated wheaten terriers—a breed with a known genetic predisposition to developing protein-losing enteropathy (PLE). Early identification of preclinical disease could significantly improve outcomes in affected breeds by enabling earlier intervention.



STUDY DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

The prospective study included 22 dogs: 12 healthy soft-coated wheaten terriers, 8 dogs diagnosed with PLE, and 2 additional healthy control dogs. The researchers employed a multifaceted diagnostic approach, including:

Fecal Calprotectin Measurement: A marker of neutrophilic inflammation within the gastrointestinal tract.

Targeted Metabolomics: Analysis of specific metabolites to detect metabolic dysregulation.

Unconjugated Bile Acid Profiling: Assessment of bile acid composition and its role in gut integrity and inflammation.

Intestinal Permeability Testing: Evaluation of barrier function to identify increased intestinal permeability or “leaky gut.”

Video Capsule Endoscopy (VCE): Non-invasive, direct visualization of the gastrointestinal mucosa to identify subclinical lesions.

KEY FINDINGS

The study revealed several biomarkers that distinguish preclinical GI disease from health. Notably, elevated fecal calprotectin and abnormalities in targeted metabolites were present in wheaten terriers before clinical signs developed. These findings suggest that intestinal inflammation and impaired barrier function may precede overt disease.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Building upon these findings, the GI Lab has secured funding to investigate whether dietary interventions can modify disease progression in at-risk dogs. This forthcoming study will evaluate whether specific dietary modifications can prevent or delay the onset of PLE in soft-coated wheaten terriers.

The ability to identify and monitor dogs at risk for chronic enteropathies could transform the management of these challenging conditions. Earlier diagnosis, combined with evidence-based dietary and medical interventions, may significantly improve patient outcomes and quality of life.

REFERENCES

Price C. Texas A&M Gastrointestinal Laboratory discovery may help prevent GI disease in dogs. News release. March 11, 2025. Accessed March 11, 2025.

Tolbert K, Darrow J, Grubb L, et al. Preclinical enteropathy in healthy soft-coated wheaten terriers. J Vet Intern Med. 2025;39(2):e17293. doi:10.1111/jvim.17293

FIRST DRUG TO REVERSE FELINE HCM NEARS FDA CONDITIONAL APPROVAL – 2025 UPDATE

A novel rapamycin-based therapy is the first drug shown to reverse hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM) in cats. With successful clinical trials, the drug is expected to receive FDA expanded conditional approval in March 2025, allowing use while the final pivotal study is ongoing.

ABOUT THE DRUG:

- Developed by TriviumVet in collaboration with NC State University.
- Targets the mTOR pathway, addressing the underlying cause of HCM rather than just managing symptoms.
- Weekly oral administration for 12 months, with 5 study visits during the trial.

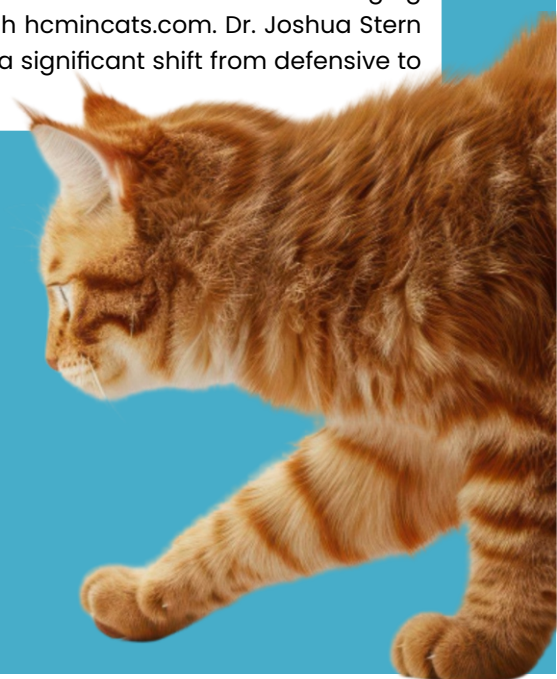
CLINICAL TRIALS AND FDA APPROVAL:

- Final pivotal study is underway across 20+ sites in the U.S., aiming to enroll 300 client-owned cats.
- Conditional approval allows the drug to be used before the trial concludes, with full market availability projected by June 2025.

ABOUT FELINE HCM:

- Most common heart disease in cats, affecting ~15% of the feline population.
- Causes heart muscle thickening, leading to heart failure, blood clots, and sudden death.
- Certain breeds (e.g., Maine Coons, Ragdolls) are genetically predisposed.

If approved, this drug will redefine HCM treatment by addressing the disease's root cause rather than managing symptoms. Veterinarians can refer feline patients for trial participation through hcmincats.com. Dr. Joshua Stern from NC State calls the drug a "game-changer" for feline cardiology, marking a significant shift from defensive to offensive treatment against HCM.



SECOND CANINE LONGEVITY DRUG RECEIVES FDA SUPPORT – 2025 UPDATE

Loyal's new developmental drug, LOY-002, designed to extend the healthy lifespan of senior dogs, has received Reasonable Expectation of Effectiveness (RXE) acceptance from the FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine—a key step toward expanded conditional approval by late 2025.

ABOUT LOY-002:

Target: Dogs aged 10 years+, weighing at least 14 lbs.

Purpose: Addresses age-related metabolic dysfunction and improves quality of life.

Administration: Beef-flavored oral pill.

LOYAL'S LONGEVITY DRUG PIPELINE:

LOY-001: Prescription injection for large and giant breeds (7 years+, 40 lbs+), received RXE in November 2023.

LOY-003: Prescription pill for large and giant breeds, in development.

THE STAY CLINICAL STUDY:

- Largest veterinary longevity trial ever, with 1,000 dogs enrolled across ~70 U.S. clinics.
- Study Duration: 4 years (began December 2023).
- Design: Randomized, placebo-controlled; measures both lifespan and quality of life.

FINANCIAL BACKING:

- \$22M raised in Series B-2 funding, bringing total investment to \$150M.
- Supports development of LOY-002, LOY-001, and LOY-003.

LOY-002 is on track for FDA expanded conditional approval by late 2025, with potential future access for veterinarians and dog owners. Loyal's work marks a paradigm shift from treating aging symptoms to actively extending and improving canine lifespan, with FDA validation confirming the drug's promise.



Vivaldis organised an Oncology Seminar at New Delhi 06 March 2025

The speaker was Dr. Noopur Desai, a renowned doctor in Veterinary Oncology from Mumbai. The event was attended by over 50 veterinarians from the Delhi NCR area.

Vivaldis also unveiled the latest product Vetecto at the event by the hands of Dr. Noopur.

Vetecto is an anti-tick and flea medication which provides up to 3 months of relief from ticks and fleas in dogs.

Vetecto is now available across the country



Vetecto

Fluralaner 250,500,1000,1400mg

3 Months
of Peace,
No Ticks
& **Fleas!**



Starts
killing
fleas within
2 hours

Eradicates
ticks in 12
hours

Highly
palatable
chew