SPECIFIC AIMS

The purpose of this initiative is to employ the use of all three diagnostic modalities, as used in human nephropathology, to accurately characterize glomerular disease in proteinuric dogs, and to relate these findings to clinicopathologic presentation and outcome. This proposal achieves this objective by establishing an international network of cooperating diagnostic renal pathology service centers to systematically evaluate tissue specimens obtained from proteinuric dogs world-wide and collect information about the clinical and clinicopathologic features of their illnesses. The long-term goal of this study is to better understand and evaluate and thus optimize the medical management of dogs with proteinuric renal disorders by identifying distinct glomerular diseases for which specific prognoses and therapeutic guidelines can be provided.

INFORMATION

For updates on Renal Standardization Study Group please visit the WSAVA website: www.wsava.org

THE STUDY GROUP INVITES YOUR PARTICIPATION:

Contact information Diagnostic Renal Pathology Centers

Texas A&M University
Texas Veterinary Renal Pathology Service
For assistance, contact:
Dr. George E. Lees
Email: glees@cvm.tamu.edu
Telephone (TAMU Small Animal Clinic):
+1-888-778-5523 (toll free), or +1-979-845-2351

Utrecht University
Veterinary Pathology Diagnostic Centre
For assistance, contact:
Dr. Jaco J. van der Lugt
Email: Lidney.VPDC@uu.nl
Telephone (VPDC) : +31 (0)30 2533195

SPONSORSHIP

The group’s efforts are supported by the WSAVA, an organization with over 75,000 members from 80 member associations, Hill’s Pet Nutrition, a global leader in pet nutrition, and Bayer Animal Health, a global leader in veterinary pharmaceuticals.
BACKGROUND
In human beings, specific proteinuric kidney diseases are characterized and identified by their light microscopic, immunopathologic, and electron microscopic features which are correlated with the patient's particular clinical and clinicopathologic findings. Diagnosis of a patient's glomerular disease provides insights into the disorder's pathogenesis and prognosis, as well as guidelines for appropriate treatment.

While veterinary pathologists have attempted to characterize glomerular diseases in dogs in a similar manner, they have based their diagnoses primarily on light microscopic findings. These efforts largely have failed to yield a consensus nomenclature, morphologic characterization, and adequate and accurate results. This failure underscores the importance of a uniform classification scheme based on expanded immunologic and ultrastructural evaluation in renal disease diagnosis.

MEMBERSHIP
The group is composed of internationally recognized scientists in companion animal nephrology and pathology:

- Dr. Claudio Brovina, ANUBI Companion Animals Hospital (Italy), Internal Medicine and Nephrology
- Dr. Cathy Brown, University of Georgia (USA), Pathology
- Dr. Larry Cowgill, University of California (USA), Nephrology, Co-chair
- Dr. Jonathan Elliott, Royal Veterinary College (UK), Nephrology
- Dr. Roel Goldschmeding, University Medical Centre Utrecht (NL), Renal Pathology
- Dr. Reidun Heiene, Norwegian College of Veterinary Medicine (NO), Internal Medicine and Nephrology
- Dr. George Lees, Texas A&M University (USA), Internal Medicine and Nephrology
- Dr. Johan Jansen, Norwegian College of Veterinary Medicine (NO), Pathology
- Dr. David Polzin, University of Minnesota (USA), Internal Medicine and Nephrology, Co-chair
- Dr. Kinji Shirotani, Research Institute of Biosciences Azabu University (JAPAN), Pathology
- Dr. William Spangler, Consulting Pathologist (USA), Pathology
- Dr. Shelly Vaden, North Carolina State University (USA), Internal Medicine and Nephrology
- Dr. Jaco van der Lught, Utrecht University (NL), Pathology
- Dr. Astrid van Dongen, Utrecht University (NL), Internal Medicine and Nephrology

Participating Pathologists
- Luca Aresu, University of Padova (IT)
- Brian Berridge, GlaxoSmithKline Inc. (USA)
- Rachel Ciancioli, North Carolina State University (USA)
- Fred Clubb, Texas A&M University (USA)
- Chuck Mohr, University of California Davis (USA)