

+ Brisbane Veterinary Specialist Centre Trials A New Non-Surgical Treatment For Mast Cell Tumours Pioneered By QBiotics

An Australian company, QBiotics Group Limited, has developed an intratumoural treatment for mast cell tumours (MCTs) in dogs. This drug has been approved by the European Medicine Agency, SwissMed, UK Veterinary Medicines Directorate and the US Food and Drug Administration's Centre for Veterinary Medicine and is marketed in Europe, UK and the USA as Stelfonta. The active ingredient is Tigilanol tiglate (TT) which is a novel small molecule pharmaceutical for use in non-metastatic cutaneous MCTs and subcutaneous MCTs located at or below the elbow and hock. Although, the drug is derived from a seed found in North Queensland rainforests, it is not licenced for use in Australia. A regulatory submission for use of the drug is currently under consideration by the APVMA.

Approval has been given for a trial of TT in dogs in Australia and Brisbane Veterinary Specialist Centre, home of the Australian Animal Cancer Foundation, is one of the approved sites. The study will provide further efficacy and safety data as well as pave the way for safe and appropriate use of this drug when it becomes available to Australian veterinarians. The study involves up to 40 dogs Australia-wide with the estimated last recruitment in July 2021.

The inclusion criteria are relatively healthy dogs over one year of age with a cytological diagnosis of one or more cutaneous or subcutaneous (below the elbow and/or hock) mast cell tumours without evidence of metastasis.

If you believe you may have a case that meets these criteria, please contact Julia Cathie or Rod Straw at BVSC on 07 3264 9400.

