

CLIENT CONSENT FORM FOR CLINICAL STUDY

Owner Name _____ Patient Name _____

Title of study: Feline Arterial Thromboembolism study: Clopidogrel vs. Aspirin Trial (FAT CAT)

Purpose of study: To determine if there is a decreased occurrence of re-embolization (secondary prevention) with aspirin compared to Plavix[®] (clopidogrel) and identify any potential adverse effects from chronic aspirin or Plavix[®] therapy.

Principal Investigator: Dr. Daniel F. Hogan, Associate Professor-Cardiology, Purdue University

Description of study: It is very common for cats with heart disease to develop blood clots. These clots can reduce blood flow to different parts of the body and can result in paralysis of the rear or front legs, kidney disease or stroke. Fortunately, most cats will recover from these events over a 1-2 month period. However, cats that have already had a clot event are very likely to experience another event. In most cases we are unable to correct the underlying heart disease but we can try to reduce the risk for developing clots by using blood-thinning agents. Aspirin, which makes platelets less sticky, has been the most widely used agent in veterinary medicine. However, there has never been a study demonstrating that aspirin is effective at reducing the clot risk. Aspirin has been shown to be very safe in cats when given at the doses used in this study. Adverse effects associated with aspirin therapy in cats include vomiting and diarrhea. Clopidogrel (Plavix[®]) is a newer antiplatelet agent that is more potent than aspirin and is more effective than aspirin in some human studies. It has been shown that clopidogrel does inhibit platelets in cats but it is not known if it is effective at reducing the risk for clots in cats. There have been no identified adverse effects of clopidogrel in cats to date but this study will provide additional information on potential adverse effects. This is a double-blinded study (neither the owners nor the investigators will know what drug each cat is taking) that will evaluate if aspirin or clopidogrel is more effective at reducing the rate of re-occurrence of clots in cats. If study analysis identifies an increased risk or dramatically decreased risk with one drug the study will be ended early and the identification of the study drug revealed.

Your cat will receive appropriate medical therapy for the underlying heart disease as well as one of the study drugs (either aspirin or clopidogrel). There will be sporadic blood tests (1 month and 3 months) performed to identify any possible adverse effects. You have been given a daily log to record appetite and the presence of vomiting, diarrhea, rash or evidence of bleeding. Please feel free to note any unusual behavior or event. There will be no further commitment on your part after 12 months. We will contact you to arrange mutually convenient times for the re-checks. If you have questions or need to change your appointment, please contact one of the contact persons. You can decide to withdraw from the study at any time although we would strongly encourage you to finish the study. We would ask that you please notify us of your reason for withdrawing from the study and to not stop the study drug until you speak with one of the contact persons. The principal investigator may decide to withdraw your cat from the study at any time but you will be notified of such a decision and the reasons for the decision.

Costs covered by the study: The study will pay for the following items: first echocardiogram, all scheduled office calls, all scheduled blood tests, all cardiac medications for 12 months and study drug for 12 months. You are responsible for the remainder of the costs incurred by your cat for medical or surgical care.

Contact persons: Your participating hospital _____, or Kim Dreher, RVT (765-494-1107, Purdue University) and notify the receptionist that your cat is on the FAT CAT study.

Signature of owner or agent

Date

Signature of Clinician/witness

Date

I understand that I voluntarily enter my cat into the research study and can withdraw at any time.

I have read the above informed consent form and understand my involvement and commitment in this study

Please return this form to Kimberley Dreher, RVT, Purdue University Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Lynn Hall, Rm G233, 625 Harrison St, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2026