



# Saluki Health Research, Inc.

*There are two new very promising cancer research projects that will be including Salukis, and our support by providing cancer samples is needed to advance the goals of these projects.*

Dr. Jaime Modiano's, (College of Veterinary Medicine and Masonic Cancer Center, University of Minnesota)

### **AKC/CHF Grant #1131 Genetic Background and the Angiogenic Phenotype in Cancer**

has been approved by the CHF for funding for 2010. Both Saluki Health Research, Inc and the Saluki Club of America have provided generous financial support. Dr. Modiano needs fresh tissue samples from hemangiosarcomas for his research. If your Saluki is diagnosed with a tumor that appears to be a hemangiosarcoma, while alive or on a post mortem examination, contact me, MaryDee Sist, DVM, Saluki Health Research, Inc. at [salukihealth@aol.com](mailto:salukihealth@aol.com) or 517-655-5551 or 517-655-1354 OR Dr. Jaime Modiano at [modiano@umn.edu](mailto:modiano@umn.edu) or 612-626-6890 or 612-625-7436 for instructions on how to submit a sample and the necessary information.

### **Van Andel Research Institute launches new canine cancer studies**

The Van Andel Institute, in Grand Rapids, Michigan, is pleased to share that we have received a "Grand Opportunities" (GO grant) from the National Institutes of Health. This is enabling the Institute to expand its canine cancer studies, started with a project into Hemangiosarcoma in Clumber spaniels a year ago, into a much broader research program. The CHCC (Canine Hereditary Cancer Consortium) has been developed to investigate five initial cancers in dogs, which also affect people. The first five cancers we'll be researching are:

1. Hemangiosarcoma
2. Osteosarcoma
3. Lymphoma
4. Malignant Histiocytosis
5. Oral Melanoma

In order to move forward, we need your help. The Institute will be studying only naturally occurring tumors, so we need the assistance of owners with dogs who develop any of the above five types of cancer. We are requesting fresh (not in formalin) tumor samples (when the dog has surgery, a biopsy or is euthanized). We also need 3 mls of blood in an EDTA (purple top) tube. If a tumor sample is not immediately available (a dog who has already had surgery, for example), a blood sample is still useful.

If your dog is scheduled for surgery, please contact VARI ahead of time, so we can FedEx a tumor collection kit to your veterinarian. You can contact the CHCC at 616-234-5569. Consent forms and more information for veterinarians can also be accessed at our website, at [www.vai.org/helpingdogs](http://www.vai.org/helpingdogs).

The goal of these studies, which have brought together an unprecedented alliance of scientists, veterinarians and physicians, is to identify genes responsible for these cancers, as well as to translate these discoveries into new and more precise diagnostics and therapeutics for both canine and human cancer patients.

Your help is welcomed, and needed. I will be happy to answer any questions you may have. Please feel free to contact me, Roe Froman, DVM at [Roe.froman@vai.org](mailto:Roe.froman@vai.org).

Saluki Health Research, Inc. will be providing archived tissue and blood samples from both cancer affected and healthy Salukis for this study. Fresh blood and tumor samples are also needed and can be submitted for use in both projects. If your dog is diagnosed with what appears to be a hemangiosarcoma or other cancers, contact Dr. Sist at [salukihealth@aol.com](mailto:salukihealth@aol.com) or 517-655-5551 or 517-655-1354.