



Your best friend deserves the best care.

If your dog is at risk for cancer, annual lymphoma screenings are essential.

Cancer is the leading cause of death in adult dogs. And lymphoma is one of the most common types of cancer.¹ So if your dog is at risk* for cancer, including lymphoma, it's important to stay vigilant with annual cancer screenings as part of your pet's routine wellness testing. Because when we find cancer early, we can fight it early.

Looking for lymphoma.

One of the most common types of canine cancer is lymphoma, a blood cancer affecting the lymphatic system. Visible signs can vary. Some dogs show no signs, while others may experience weight loss, vomiting, diarrhoea, new lumps on the body or difficulty breathing. Lymphoma can progress quickly in dogs, often without showing visible signs until it's too late. That's why it's important to screen for lymphoma regularly. With regular screenings, we have a better chance of detecting lymphoma early.

A simple blood test with extraordinary possibilities.

Cancer detection has come a long way. Based on early data, IDEXX Cancer Dx™ testing can detect lymphoma from a single blood sample, even in dogs who don't show signs.² So if your dog is at risk for lymphoma, talk with your veterinarian about regular screenings.

Wellness starts with a plan.

How do you know if your dog is at risk for cancer? Once your dog reaches 7 years old, regular screenings are an essential part of keeping them healthy. But some breeds should start screening at 4 years old. Talk with your veterinarian to determine your dog's risk of developing cancer so you can develop a healthcare plan that meets your needs.

The following breeds are at higher risk for cancer:

Beagle	Irish wolfhound
Bernese mountain dog	Labrador retriever
Boston terrier	Miniature schnauzer
Boxer	Pembroke Welsh corgi
Bullmastiff	Rhodesian ridgeback
Chinese pug	Rottweiler
Doberman pinscher	Scottish deerhound
English bulldog	Scottish terrier
Flat-coated retriever	Shar-pei
French bulldog	Siberian husky
German shepherd	Weimaraner
Golden retriever	

When it comes to cancer, negative is a good thing.

Just like people, dogs at risk for cancer should get screened regularly. And while most tests will come back not consistent with lymphoma, the best way to find lymphoma early is to screen for it regularly. A result not consistent with lymphoma doesn't guarantee that your dog won't develop lymphoma or another type of cancer in the future.

What to expect from a positive result.

If your dog's test results are consistent with lymphoma, your veterinarian may recommend a recheck in 4–8 weeks or additional evaluations, depending on signs. For confirmed lymphoma cases, next steps could include referral to a specialist or discussing treatment options like chemotherapy, radiation therapy, surgery or palliative care. Many dogs tolerate chemotherapy well, maintaining a good quality of life throughout treatment.^{3,4} Regular screenings are key to ensuring timely and accurate care.

The best gift you can give your dog? Old age.

Cancer screening is just a small part of a dog's healthcare plan. Along with diet, exercise, routine screening and a loving family, you and your veterinarian can help your dog live a long, healthy life.

Discuss screening for lymphoma with your veterinarian.



*At-risk dogs include all dogs \geq 7 years old and high-risk breeds \geq 4 years old.

References

1. What are the most common types of cancers in dogs? How many dogs typically get cancer? Veterinary Cancer Society; 2021. Accessed February 3, 2025. www.vetcancersociety.org/pet-owners/faqs
2. Data on file at IDEXX Laboratories, Inc. Westbrook, Maine USA: Data based on testing performed at IDEXX Reference Laboratories in North America between November 1, 2024, and December 6, 2024. *Analysis Report: IDEXX Cancer Dx Validation, 100282 [008_CancerDx-Validation-Report-2.Rmd]*.
3. Bergmann M, Sauter-Louis C, Hirschberger J. Lebensqualität und Lebenserwartung am malignen Lymphom erkrankter Hunde unter Chemotherapie. Eine Besitzerumfrage [Quality of life and life expectancy of dogs undergoing chemotherapy for malignant lymphoma. An owner survey]. *Tierarztl Prax Ausg K Kleintiere Heimtiere*. 2011;39(4):229–236.
4. Bianchi ML, Drudi D, Treggiari E, et al. Quality of life assessment in cancer patients receiving single-agent versus multidrug chemotherapy protocols. *Open Vet J*. 2021;11(4):755–763. doi:10.5455/OVJ.2021.v11.i4.28

© 2026 IDEXX Laboratories, Inc. All rights reserved. • 09-2692369-00
All trademarks are owned by IDEXX Laboratories, Inc. or its affiliates in the United States and/or other countries.
The IDEXX Privacy Policy is available at idexx.com.

