

Dear Dr.

The Newfoundland Club of America (NCA) is extremely interested in the health and welfare of the Newfoundland breed. To this end, the NCA has established a Charitable Trust to collect funds for research into the various health problems of the breed. Thanks to the generosity of owners and friends of Newfoundlands, since its inception the NCA Charitable Trust has distributed over \$126,000 toward funding of research into disorders such as dilated cardiomyopathy, gastric dilatation/volvulus (bloat), subaortic stenosis, and forelimb anomaly.

The NCA Charitable Trust is currently seeking to participate in funding additional studies that would benefit and influence the health of the Newfoundland dog, and is seeking your assistance in identifying investigators from your institution whose research interests include such. Currently, we are most interested in studies in the following areas:

- Subvalvular aortic stenosis, DNA marker(s)
- Dilated cardiomyopathy, genetics, treatment
- Elbow dysplasia, particularly fragmented coronoid process, genetics, early diagnosis
- Hip dysplasia, DNA marker(s)
- Forelimb anomaly, DNA marker(s)
- Rupture of Cranial Cruciate Ligament, genetics, DNA marker(s)
- Osteosarcoma
- Lymphoma
- Juvenile cataracts, breed-specific or Mastiff-type breeds.
- Ectopic ureters, genetics, DNA marker(s)
- Laryngeal paralysis, etiology, genetics
- Epilepsy, breed-specific or Mastiff-type breeds
- Clotting disorders, especially related to platelet function
- Dermatologic disorders, especially atopy and endocrine dermatopathies

If you know of researchers who are investigating any of the above disorders, please encourage them to submit proposals to the American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation, which provides matching funding for grants supported by breed clubs. Information on application for these grants is available on the Internet at <http://www.akcchf.org/research/general.cfm>. Additionally, please have them notify Dr. Clyde Dunphy, Chairman of the NCA Charitable Trust (address below), to alert the Trust that a proposal has been submitted. Alternatively, proposals may be sent directly to Dr. Dunphy for consideration by the NCA Research and Advisory Committee for direct funding by the NCA Charitable Trust.

Thank you for your assistance in identifying investigators whose research will benefit the health and well being of Newfoundland dogs.

Sincerely,

Sharon Gwaltney-Brant DVM PhD DABVT DABT  
Co-Chair Research Advisory Committee  
Newfoundland Club of America

Cc: Clyde Dunphy DVM, Chairman NCA Charitable Trust  
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