

Percy 8 year-old FS Bichon Frise



- Presenting for an annual recheck and doing well at home
- TPR within normal limits
- Physical Exam
 - Moderate dental tartar
 - SQ mass over left later flank that is soft and moveable
 - No other significant findings
- As Dr. Sue Cancer Vet says, "see something, do something!" so #WhyWaitAspirate. If size of a pea and been there more than a month then aspirate
- Also, as part of Wellness Exam, you run blood work (minimum database) as well as the Nu.Q® Vet Cancer Screening Test

Suspicion – Lymphoma

Result

Nu.Q® Vet Cancer Screening Test:
58.2 ng/mL

Result: 57.4-67.3 ng/mL
Cancer Suspicion: Moderate

Interpretation:

Plasma nucleosome concentrations ranging from 57.4-67.4 ng/mL can be seen in early-stage cancer or cancers with low levels of circulating nucleosomes. Elevated nucleosome concentrations have been demonstrated in a variety of common cancers including lymphoma and hemangiosarcoma. This test is not able to differentiate severe inflammation from cancer. Additional tests may be needed to confirm or deny the suspicion of cancer in your patient.

If your patient is otherwise healthy, we recommend repeating the test in 2-4 weeks.

If there is a high suspicion of cancer or if the Nu.Q® result remains elevated after retesting in your patient we recommend additional testing such as a CBC, Chemistry, Urinalysis, Cytology/Biopsy, and/or Imaging to look for possible cancer in this patient.

Note – Dogs that have not been fasted may have artificially elevated nucleosome levels and should be retested after fasting.

Percy – What to do next?

Check – Was Percy fasted?

No, Repeat the test the following morning.

Result

Nu.Q® Vet Cancer Screening Test:
28.2 ng/mL

Result: <57.4 ng/mL
Cancer Suspicion: Low

Plasma nucleosome concentrations ranging from 0-57.4 ng/mL are consistent with those found in healthy animals of over the age of 1 year and all genders. Not all neoplastic conditions are detectable using elevated plasma nucleosome concentrations. If clinically indicated, additional tests such as a CBC, Chemistry, Urinalysis, Cytology/Biopsy, and/or Imaging may be needed to confirm or deny the suspicion of cancer in your patient.

Result

FNA of SQ mass: Lipoma – Great news!

Next steps

Repeat test at next Wellness visit.