



Vet Practice: Highcliff Veterinary Practice

Name: Dyllan Pilkington

Breed: Cocker Spaniel

Sex: M

Age: 9 years

Dyllan Pilkington, a 9 year old Cocker Spaniel, was presented to Tom Forsyth of the Highcliff Veterinary Practice in Brantham. Diagnosed with diffuse large B-cell lymphoma by flow cytometry on 1st May 2014, Dyllan had chemotherapy using the CHOP (Madison-Wisconsin protocol without L-asparaginase), finishing with a final doxorubicin infusion on the 18th November 2014.

The canine Lymphoma Blood Test (cLBT) was used for monitoring every month, starting on the 19th November 2014 with a score of 0.19, indicating Dyllan was in remission. As demonstrated in the remission profile below, in the first months following chemotherapy, Dyllan's cLBT score remained <1.92 (in remission), apart from a spike in week 10, where Dyllan had been bitten by another dog and in-turn the bite became infected, resulting in the biomarkers rising. This emphasised the need to interpret the result, whilst considering other inflammatory factors and although there was a rise in cLBT at this point, it was still below the full out of remission threshold. Dyllan's results again remained stable until April 2015's cLBT, which indicated a high score of 3.73 (out of remission). Although Dyllan showed no clinical symptoms, the cLBT detected a rise in levels and because of this, in May 2015, Dyllan started a 9 week CHOP rescue protocol of chemotherapy. Tom explained "rescue CHOP started on the basis of the rise of the cLBT; there was no clinical sign he was coming out of remission." The CHOP rescue protocol successfully finished in July 2015, with a cLBT indicating he was in remission with a score of 0.19. Tom added "Dyllan remains very well and has had no lymphadenopathy since starting CHOP protocol first time around."

Tom now continues to monitor Dyllan monthly using the cLBT as demonstrated in the remission profile, showing his latest test on October 14th had a score in remission.

Remission Profile



Score Explanation

- 0.00-1.92: Typical of Dogs In Remission
- 1.93-3.28: Typical of Dogs In Partial Remission
- 3.29-5.00: Typical of Dogs Out of Remission

Tom describes the cLBT as ***"an incredibly useful tool"***, adding, it ***"was a bit of a leap of faith to start rescue chemo protocol in absence of clinical signs, but at 50 weeks from finishing the first round of chemo, Dyllan's family & I are delighted with how he is doing."***

- Tom Forsyth, Highcliff Veterinary Practice