



Consent for participation in research study and collection/analysis of urine

The Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America and Berner-Garde Foundation, in collaboration with Rametrix Technologies Inc. (www.rametrixtech.com) are studying a new urine-based test that may help to detect cancer in dogs. The Club and Foundation have provided funding for this study. Preliminary results gathered from the analysis of over 200 urine specimens are very promising and *may* eventually provide a means to detect and manage cancer in all dogs, but especially in Berners.

We are requesting your consent to participate in a research study that will help validate this test. The test uses Raman spectroscopy to detect hundreds of different molecules in urine that help characterize health and disease. The patterns created by these molecules and detected with Raman spectroscopy are called “**Raman molecular fingerprints**”. These patterns are created when small amounts of urine (less than a teaspoon) are irradiated with a laser and then the light energy emitted by the sample is detected with a Raman spectrometer. The analysis only takes a few minutes. We are specifically looking for Raman molecular fingerprints related to histiocytic sarcoma, lymphoma, hemangiosarcoma (all serious cancers that affect Berners) and kidney disease (as well as other diseases).

Samples of urine are relinquished to Rametrix Technologies. No analysis will be provided during the research phase of this project. Specimens used for research will be done in a blind format to maintain the anonymity of the dog and owner identities. Publication of research results will never include information specific to any dog or owner. The submitting party agrees to participate in the open Berner-Garde database, which includes updating routine medical history of the dog.

I hereby donate, assign, and transfer the sample(s) of the dog to Rametrix Technologies. I am the owner or agent of the dog named and have authority to execute this release. My signature below indicates that I voluntarily donate this dog’s urine sample(s).

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address (City, State, Zip code): _____

Dog’s name: _____

Berner-Garde Dog ID #: _____ AGE: _____ SEX: _____ Neutered/SPAYED: _____

Do you consider your dog to be clinically healthy? YES NO

Any known health problems?

Signature and date: _____