

#### Home office license

Your dog will undergo procedures that will be carried out under the authority of a Project License granted under the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 (as amended in 2012).

In order to comply with relevant legislation involving animal studies, your dog must be permanently identified with a microchip ('Identichip'). If he / she is already chipped then we will just read the chip - if he / she does not have a chip we will insert a chip free of charge - this will then give you free lifetime registration (we need your full address including postcode and telephone number for the registration document).

Once your dog has been recruited to the study it will not be possible for your dog to ever participate in another study carried out under Home Office License Project License.



(The School of Veterinary Sciences site at Langford)

A big thank you from the study team and we look forward to meeting you and your dog very soon.

### **University of Bristol**

Langford House Bristol BS40 5DU

### For more information

**Visit:** www.bris.ac.uk/vetscience/research/projects/brisoldogarthritisstudy/

Email the study team: dogarthritisstudy@bristol.ac.uk

Tel: 07510 993922





### **School of Veterinary Sciences**

# Dog Arthritis Study What's involved?



Visit: www.bris.ac.uk/vetscience/research/projects/bristoldogarthritisstudy/

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## Taking part—What's involved?

### Screening - Visit 1 (Week 0)

**Where:** The study will take place at the School of Veterinary Sciences in Langford

**Visits:** The study will involve four visits for you and your dog over a 2 month period.

When you arrive: You will be met James Hunt (Veterinary Surgeon) and Helen Jenkins (Veterinary Nurse) at the Small animal hospital reception.



**Initial consultation**: To check that your dog can participate in the study. We will ask you some questions about your dog and examine your dog.

A blood sample will be collected from your dog in order to confirm that he/she is healthy.

Arrange the next appointment for 1 weeks time

If your dog is showing any signs of; being unhappy, afraid, despondent or irritable at any time in our care we will stop the assessment and contact you.

### Step 1—Visit 2 (Week 1)

**Where:** For the second visit you and your dog will return to the Veterinary School.

**Consultation:** We will check that your dog's health status has not changed, complete the mobility questionnaires and then ask you to leave your dog with the research team.

**Assessment:** Your dog will have a short anaesthetic to allow x-rays to be taken of his/her joints to assess the severity of osteoarthritis. This will be followed by sensory testing under anaesthesia.



(Induction suite at Langford)

**Time of assessment:** Step 1 will take about 2-3 hours., followed by the recovery from anaesthesia.

Once up and awake your dog will be returned to you. We will discuss the results of the x-rays with you so that you are also fully informed about your dog's health.

Arrange the next appointment for 1 weeks time

### Step 2 - Visit 3 (Week 2)

**Where:** Your dog will return to the School of Veterinary Sciences.

**Consultation:** We will repeat the mobility questionnaire and physical examination to ensure that no changes have occurred since your last visit.

**Assessment:** We will assess your dog's sensitivity to different types of sensory stimuli such as firm pressure, light touch, and temperature.



(Jo and James testing response to firm pressure)

Your dog will be awake lying down on comfortable bedding with Helen for cuddles reassurance and treats for this part of the assessment.

**Time of assessment:** This visits will be shorter and will not require anaesthesia. It will be a maximum of half a day with breaks included to ensure your dog has time to relax. At the end of the assessment your dog will be returned to you.

Arrange the next appointment for 3 weeks time

Step 3—Visit 4 (Week 5)

We repeat **step 2** at this stage to confirm repeatability and stability of assessments over time.