Thank you for considering registration with our Eye Donor program. The submission of removed eyes/globes from Cairn Terriers affected with Ocular Melanosis is critical to our research efforts. Our research aim is to identify the gene mutation that causes this blinding and painful condition. We believe culturing abnormal pigment cells from these globes in the laboratory will provide critical information to help us efficiently narrow our search of hundreds of potential candidate genes. Once the gene mutation is identified, a test can be developed to screen breeding animals and ensure eradication of Ocular Melanosis from the Cairn Terrier. To be successful, we need to collect removed eyes from as many affected dogs as possible. Adding your pet’s name to our Eye Donation Registry is the first step in helping us with this important research effort. We realize this can be a very difficult decision to make, but an important one to help us identify the gene mutation that affects so many Cairn Terriers.

Please could you send us the following:

NOW:
1. Please register as a donor by completing the Donor Registry Form for Michigan State University OM Studies and send it with a copy of your dog’s pedigree and any information you have about their Ocular Melanosis.
2. If you have not previously submitted a blood sample please also consider doing so (needed for genetic studies).

IN THE FUTURE:
If your dog’s eye is removed for any reason, or if your dog should die, please ask your veterinarian to submit the eye(s) for the study.

3. We are seeking: freshly removed eyes from Cairns that have gone blind from Ocular Melanosis. The eyes should be shipped immediately via an overnight mail as described in the “Information for Veterinarians” section below.

Please mail your completed forms and samples to:

Dr Simon Petersen-Jones or Dr Joshua Bartoe (OM Research)
Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences
Veterinary Medical Center
736 Wilson Road, room D-208
East Lansing, Michigan MI 48824-1314.

All information received will be treated in confidence.
Again, thank you!
I am planning to donate the eye(s) from my Cairn Terrier who is affected with Ocular Melanosis.

Please complete this form and provide us with as detailed a pedigree as possible. Date:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>My Dog’s Details:</th>
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<tr>
<td>AKC REGISTERED NAME</td>
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<tr>
<td>DATE OF DIAGNOSIS OF OCULAR MELANOSIS</td>
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<tr>
<td>HAVE YOU INCLUDED A PEDIGREE?</td>
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<tr>
<td>DATE OF BIRTH:</td>
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<th>My Details:</th>
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<td>FIRST NAME:</td>
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<td>STREET ADDRESS:</td>
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<td>CITY:</td>
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<tr>
<th>My Veterinarian’s Details:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FIRST NAME:</td>
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<tr>
<td>STREET ADDRESS:</td>
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<td>CITY:</td>
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History of Eye Diseases. Please provide copies of any eye examination reports (such as CERF forms).

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ALL INFORMATION IS HELD IN COMPLETE CONFIDENCE
INFORMATION FOR VETERINARIANS

Thank you for helping with our studies into Ocular Melanosis. We are grateful for submission of sterile, freshly removed eyes from Cairn Terriers affected with Ocular Melanosis for tissue culture at Michigan State University.

ENUCLEATION

Please maintain aseptic technique (even if the dog has died) and ship in sterile containers and fluid. This is essential because cells from the eye will be cultured and any contamination of the globe will adversely affect the procedure.

SHIPPING

1. **EYES:** Following aseptic removal of the globe please submerge it immediately in chilled sterile Saline Solution in a small, sterile, sealed, screw-top plastic specimen container. Please use a container that is appropriately sized for the eye. Do not leave too much space without saline in the container in order to avoid tissue damage during shipment. Enclose the container in double zip-lock bags. If both globes are sent, please place them in separate containers and label each as right eye or left eye for easy identification.

2. **BLOOD SAMPLES** These should be collected in an EDTA or citrate blood tube. Ideally we would like to receive two 6 ml EDTA tubes of blood from each dog. The blood tubes must be clearly labeled so we know which dogs they are from. An ice pack should be included to keep the tubes cool during transit. The tubes should be placed in ziplock plastic bags and packed in padding in a small package that will protect them during delivery.

3. Pack the enclosed container in a small Styrofoam insulating box with an appropriate number of freezer packs to maintain the sample in a refrigerated state for the duration of the shipping process. Ensure the containers will not leak or become broken during shipping.

4. Address the box as listed above and label as “PERISHABLE”.

5. Please ship the box OVERNIGHT with morning delivery via a courier such as UPS, FedEx, etc. Packages containing blood samples only can be sent by second day delivery.

If you have any questions please contact Dr Petersen-Jones or Dr Bartoe at MSU or Linda Heiner, Eye Coordinator for the Cairn Terrier Club of America (CTCA) at L@heiner @cox.net, cell: 760-415-6209

Simon Petersen-Jones DVetMed PhD DVOphthal DipECVO MRCVS
Direct Line: 517 353 3278
Email: peter315@cvm.msu.edu

Joshua Bartoe DVM, MS, Dipl. ACVO
Email: bartoejo@cvm.msu.edu
OCULAR MELANOSIS DONOR CHECKLIST

Please keep for your own records:

I am helping in the effort,
as my pet is a Cairn Terrier Ocular Melanosis Eye Donor!

Check-off when complete:

☐ Filled-out and mailed “Donor Registry Form for Michigan State University OM Studies”

☐ Sent a detailed Pedigree of my dog’s breeding line

☐ Submitted a Blood Sample from my dog

☐ Informed my veterinarian that I intend to participate in the Cairn Terrier Ocular Melanosis Eye Donor when my pet has gone blind due to OM or dies.

Thank you, your support is critical to our Cairn Terrier Ocular Melanosis research efforts. We hope one day to completely eradicate this devastating disease. We cannot do it without you!

Dr. Petersen-Jones or Dr Bartoe
Dept. of Small Animal Clinical Sciences
Michigan State University
736 Wilson Rd. Room D-208
East Lansing, MI 48824-1314,
(517) 353-3278, Fax: (517) 355-5164
email: peter315@cvm.msu.edu or bartoejo@cvm.msu.edu