

## NTUAS

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The NTCA was lucky to have a Norwich owner whose veterinarian (Dr. Stanley, of Michigan) became interested after reading a paper published by another vet (Dr. Johnson, of California). Both are soft tissue surgeons.

We wanted to have regional sites so Dr. Stanley reached out to vets in Texas and at the University of Penn. 4 sites altogether Michigan/California/Texas and Pennsylvania

Jane Schubart worked with Dr. Stanley to write a grant - AKC's Canine Health Foundation approved and administered the grant, matching the money that people had donated over the years specifying an interest in Norwich. That was about \$25,000. The NTCA Health Committee had to design a study plan, all the details, contracts with all the vet schools and agreements about what they would charge (CT scan, scoping to evaluate, all the vet clinic charges). NTCA members and friends generously donated the rest.

Then the NTCA recruited people to take their dogs to one of the 4 sites. Owners paid for their own travel and chest x-ray (in advance to rule out other problems, mainly heart conditions). The study paid for everything else.

More than 150 dogs were enrolled. The airway exams were videotaped; 3 vets evaluated and scored multiple times until everybody agreed. Owners completed surveys about their dogs breathing signs. Blood and DNA have been collected, and genetic study is the next step.

The NTCA made sure that all dogs ages and stages of life were represented. There were no autopsied dogs used in the study.

Finally, this summer, we have a reliable scoring method. Five parts of the airway anatomy correlated with UAS. The scale is 0-25 (low is better). We now have a good understanding of UAS in the Norwich.

This summer, Mrs. Schubart again worked with Dr. Stanley and the NTCA now has lots of materials for veterinarians on the club website. Also, a list of the vets in the study and contact information to make appointments. Those vets can scare - they know what to do.

**On Nov 9th at 8PM we will have a webinar - it will be taped - Canine Health Foundation is hosting with VetVine. Dr. Stanley is going to present the full results of the study. Anyone can register and watch.**

[https://norwichterrierclub.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/NTCA-webinar-flyer-10-2-20.pdf?fbclid=IwAR1y82IGuqf3St8gnccRAdVS0fNJ0xvx49zL-jrRhmmY\\_bJSIHKGJiPerWw](https://norwichterrierclub.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/NTCA-webinar-flyer-10-2-20.pdf?fbclid=IwAR1y82IGuqf3St8gnccRAdVS0fNJ0xvx49zL-jrRhmmY_bJSIHKGJiPerWw)

We want to reach our veterinarians and train as there are many who are willing. They don't learn enough about the airway anatomy in vet school.

*UAS is genetic - we don't have a causal gene identified, contrary to the DNA test that VetGen is selling on their website.*

Hope this helps!

Much love,

Missy