

# **Fighting Canine Cancer:**

## **An Alternative Approach**

**(Dedicated to "Marty the Wonderdog")**



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## **Part 2 - Bonus Materials**

***[Please Note: The Following Bonuses Can Be Found  
In a Separate File in Your Download Package and  
Are Also Available Online at  
<http://www.dogcancergroup.com/book>]***

**Bonus #1: Your 10-Day Fighting Canine Cancer  
Action Plan**

**Bonus #2: Last Minute Miracles (What to Do If You  
Don't Have Any Time to Spare)**

**Bonus #3: Your Supplement Starter Kit**

**Bonus #4: Your Guide to Recommended  
“Diagnosis-Specific” Adjustments**

**Bonus #5: Your Guide to Fighting Dog Cancer  
on ANY Budget**

**Bonus #6: Raw Meat Dog Cancer Diet Recipe**

**Bonus #7: Marty's Supplement Mix (with Dosages)**

**Bonus #8: Natural Flea Care for Dogs With Cancer**

**Bonus #9: Dog Cancer Care “Diary” and  
Daily Treatment Tracker**

**Bonus #10: Visualizations for Health and Healing**

**Bonus #11: Finding a Holistic Vet (and a Holistic  
Pet Shop) in Your Area**

**Bonus #12: International Resources for Dog Cancer  
Care Around the World**

**Bonus #13: Recommended Additional Dog Cancer  
Reading and Research**

**Bonus #14: Rolling the Dice: Your Guide to Dog  
Cancer “Prevention”**

**Disclaimer**  
**(First the Legal Stuff, Please Read)**

What you'll find in this book is not a medical diagnosis. It's not a medical prescription. It's not medical advice.

I am not a doctor. I'm not a vet. I'm just someone who refused to accept that my dog was going to die of cancer when the veterinarians insisted he would.

I strongly encourage you do your own research and consult your own medical and veterinary experts. I can't tell you what to do. I can only tell you why I rejected traditional cancer treatments - the ones my vets told me up front had **NO CHANCE** for long term success. You'll have to decide for yourself what's best for you and for your dog.

And if it's important for you to follow a different route than I did in caring for your dog, then by all means do so. He's your pet and you have to make the final decision about what works and what doesn't work for you. All I can do is share my story, my experiences, and the things I've learned. I encourage you to take what I say seriously (because, like I said, I've done a lot of research, had great success using these methods for my dog Marty, and worked with literally thousands of dog owners over the years to help them achieve great results for their dogs too). But these are my experiences, not yours..., and whether they'll work for you and your dog, only time will tell.

Also, throughout the book I refer to and quote other books and websites. All quoted information is the responsibility of the author who originally wrote it. I have not separately confirmed the accuracy of those statements. And with respect to any supplements discussed below, unless otherwise stated please assume, as I do, that all supplement statements and claims have not been evaluated by the FDA and that those products are not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease. You'll find similar disclaimers on the websites of those products and you should abide by them accordingly. Like I said, I can only discuss my personal experience with those products and supplements, and while I hope they have similar effects for you and your dog, only you can decide whether such similar results will occur.

I wish you all the best, and hope my story and experience helps you, and your dog, to heal.

*Ted Schneek* &



Marty (the Wonderdog)

## **Foreword**

Welcome to “Fighting Canine Cancer: An Alternative Approach”

This book, with its new title, is the most recent version of the book I wrote in 2007 about dog cancer care. When I wrote that book, I was in the middle of the battle for my dog Marty’s life. This book is Marty’s story - and his legacy. My way to teach you the things we learned together throughout his cancer battle. Things that changed my life, and allowed Marty to live far longer than his vets believed possible.

As you’ll see when you read the book, when Marty was first diagnosed with cancer his prognosis was bleak... 4 to 6 months, max, was the best hope any of his vets would give me - and that was ONLY if we put him through harsh radiation treatments that would slow the cancer’s advance, but just a bit.

But instead of listening to Marty’s original vets - and accepting their 4 to 6 month “death sentence” - I ignored their advice, and instead found experts who taught me a different way to go... Using natural treatments that, in my mind (and in the minds of many licensed veterinarians and dog cancer experts around the world), have a **MUCH** better chance for real, long term success...

And thanks to these natural treatments - the ones I share with you in this book - Marty and I didn’t have just 4 to 6 months together. Thanks to these natural treatments he stayed with me almost 18 full months - 3 times longer than his original vets told me was possible with their recommended radiation treatments, and many times longer than they predicted we’d have together if we “ignored” their radiation advice...

I look at those 18 months with Marty as “Bonus Time” - wonderful time shared together in love and joy. And in oh so many ways these extra months were some of the best times Marty and I spent together (it’s amazing how precious moments can be when you stop taking for granted that your friend is always going to be there - and start to really appreciate him, moment-by-moment.)

I wrote this book to help you get the “Bonus Time” you deserve with your dog too.

In the end, we did lose Marty (in large part from a major mistake “I” made with his care - I’ll tell you more about that in Chapter 7 below).<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> I can’t emphasize enough how important it is for you to learn the things I’ve learned from my research, from my experience and from my *mistakes*.

But while my (very preventable) mistake ultimately cost Marty his life (and cost me my best friend), by the time he left we were both ready - we knew we'd put up our best fight, and we'd had our chance to say goodbye many times over, and on **OUR** terms...

So this book is dedicated by me, to my one in a billion friend, Marty "the Wonderdog." And by Marty, to you and your dog - and to all of the literally thousands of dogs who, thanks to this story, will follow in his footsteps and live far longer than their vets think possible too.

As you read this book, you'll see that I kept the story from my original book on dog cancer care intact as much as possible - sharing Marty's battle in the present tense, as if he was still alive (which, of course, he was when I originally wrote those words).

But since I first published my original book in 2007, I've had 3 more years to research and learn more and more about fighting canine cancer. And over that time, I've helped over 12,000 dog owners (and counting) care for their dogs, and received and answered almost every dog cancer question and concern imaginable - so I knew it was time to update the book, to make it better and include as much of this new information as possible.

I hope Marty's story inspires you to take action for your dog (that's the key), and to make the changes you need to give your dog the same chances Marty had in his cancer battle. Regardless of whether you can afford to do everything I did (and more) - or if you have to pick and choose the most cost efficient options available (I've added a special bonus to the book that will help you do just that) - the information I share really does work.

And now it's time to put it to work for you and your dog too.

That way, Marty and I will both know that his death was not in vain, but just our way of helping other dogs - your dog - cure canine cancer.

So now, on to the book... and the healing.

Warmly,

*Ted Schneck*

August, 2010



## **Chapter 1: Don't Worry...**

I remember the call as if it was yesterday. The message I received - the test results for my dog, Marty.

Marty, my friend, had been with me seven years before we noticed the bump in his mouth. The doctors were concerned and wanted to have it tested. Well, now the test results were back and they were the worst I could imagine. Marty was in the late stages of full-blown cancer.

I asked the vet what I could do, and she recommended we start Marty on traditional radiation treatments as soon as possible. First an MRI, to see what we're up against, then radiation therapy every day for two months.

If I followed her advice, she explained, Marty would struggle at first, as the radiation bombarded his system each day, but at the end of the radiation therapy cycle he'd feel much better - for a while at least. Because then the cancer would take over again, and after about six months..., he'd be dead.

I asked how much this six month lease on life would cost, and the vet told me about Six Thousand Dollars, maybe more. All I could think was, "That's Insane!" No way was I going to spend Six Thousands Dollars, and make my dog suffer through daily radiation treatments, just to extend his life a few short months.

I asked if there was any chance he might live longer, but she said - "No, it's too late." The cancer had advanced too far.

I was devastated. Here was Marty, my friend of seven years - a member of my family... - and now I was going to have to say goodbye.



Feeling helpless and depressed, I started calling friends, not knowing exactly what to do. And luckily for me, one of them suggested I visit the owner of a natural pet store in my hometown of Portland, Oregon.

That store owner's words of advice and guidance changed Marty's and my life forever....

### Finding Hope in a Dog Named Bear

When I arrived at the store, the owner was there with her roommate and her roommate's dog, a scrawny little scrapper named "Bear." Now Bear had been diagnosed with cancer - and a bunch of other unknown ailments - about 2 years earlier. At the time he'd been given about 3 months to live. Yet there he was, 2 years later, playing and bouncing around the store. A testament to dogs everywhere who just wouldn't give up.

Then she gave me some powerful advice. It was advice I needed to hear.

She said,

"Don't worry.... The first thing you need to do is **ignore everything your vet told you**, because when it comes to curing cancer, your vet has absolutely **NO IDEA** what she's talking about."

O.K. - that was a shock. I mean, after all, wasn't my vet a professionally trained expert - a cancer "specialist" even - with years of study and experience? Hadn't she seen hundreds of cases just like Marty's?

But **I kept an open mind** as my new friend continued...

...and as I listened, **a huge weight lifted** away from me...

...because as I listened, **I realized she was right**.

As loving and well meaning as most vets are, they tend to prescribe traditional cancer treatments for dogs - radiation and chemotherapy. And they're right about one thing - in most cases those treatments just don't work for very long. But, when it comes to predicting when (or whether) your dog is going to die of cancer... **THEY KNOW NOTHING**.

## **Traditional Veterinary Oncology**

A while back, I had a friend who was a Veterinary Oncologist (Cancer Specialist). She once explained to me that in her practice “You don’t cure dogs of cancer.” That the best they could do was “ease their symptoms and give them the best possible quality of life for some short period of time.”

She explained that a dog’s short lifespan simply didn’t justify aggressive traditional treatments that can be effective on certain human cancer patients.

I think that’s the attitude of many veterinarians towards canine cancer - don’t cure them; just make them comfortable for a while.<sup>2</sup>

I’m grateful I didn’t buy into this “limited” way of thinking. If I had, Marty would have been gone long ago.

My new cancer fighting mentors explained to me that in the right healing environment, dogs DO have the power to heal their own sickness (even cancer), and that what conventional veterinarians consider ‘miracles’ really do happen every day.

And there was Bear (and now Marty) - as living, walking, playing, proof of that.

And with those words, they began to teach me all they’d learned about alternative cancer remedies. And what they’d done to heal Bear despite all predictions that he wouldn’t survive more than a few short months.

The lessons they taught me, plus my own research and experiments as I’ve taken care of Marty, is what I share with you now.

So for now, “Don’t Worry.” Because when it comes to predicting when (or whether) your dog will die of cancer...

**“YOUR VET KNOWS ABSOLUTELY NOTHING.”**

~ ~ ~

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<sup>2</sup> See, for example, “The Natural Vet’s Guide to Preventing and Treating Cancer in Dogs” by Shawn Messonnier, DVM, at p.99, “Remember that quality of life, not cure, is the goal for most of our pet patients.”

## **Chapter 2:** **The Psychology of Cancer**

Today I understand why this message - that I had to IGNORE the vets who told me Marty had only 6 months to live - was **critical** to Marty's healing.

In my years studying canine cancer, I've learned a lot about the disease and how it kills. And the more I learn, the more I realize that cancer is much more than a just physical disease. It's a psychological disease - an energetic disease.

One of the most unexpected, and important things I learned in my research, is how critical the power of the mind in fighting cancer.

In particular, the importance of positive thinking.

I once read about a study that found the #1 correlation for cancer victim death rates was "being diagnosed with cancer" - and that this correlation was multiplied significantly if there was a "time limit" spoken with it. Once the diagnosis is made, our minds turn this time limit into a "self-fulfilling prophecy." So if you're told you have six months to live, studies have shown that, in general, you'll live about - you guessed it - SIX months. But cancer patients who weren't diagnosed, or who weren't given this time "limit," on average lived twice as long.

Why is this?

Because with cancer, the diagnosis itself tends to get to us. In our minds we worry, and that worry allows the cancer to feed on us and take control. Here's another way to look at it - if your body is fighting off one of the most prolific diseases on the planet, it needs to focus all its energy on the task at hand to be successful. Worry literally draws energy and attention away from the immune system and towards other things - namely dealing with your worry. So your immune system gets weaker and the cancer's job becomes that much easier.

The same is true with dogs - sort of. Of course dogs have no idea what "cancer" is. They don't hear the diagnosis. They don't know how to circle the date on the calendar when they're "supposed" to die. They don't "worry" about things the way we do. One look at them and this should be obvious. No matter what, they stay as playful and loving as their energy allows - and when they struggle, it's not the struggle of worry and fear, it's just exhaustion and discomfort.

**BUT.... dogs are extremely empathic animals. They reflect what WE feel. That's why they tend to act like we do, they tend to think like we do, they even tend to look like us over time. Because they relate to us so well.**

**So, when the vet says your dog has only 6 months to live, it's not your dog who worries about it. Of course not. They don't make value judgments or ask "why me?" - they just know something feels wrong. That they don't feel right and just need to heal.**

**But we're another story. We DO start to worry - about them. We draw circles on OUR calendars and wonder when they're going to leave us. And even if they don't know exactly what we're feeling, they can certainly sense it. They draw energy from us. Our sadness. Our fears. Our concerns actually bring them down and make them sicker.**

**I can see it myself - clearly - when I'm with Marty. When I'm worried..., when I'm scared..., when I'm troubled..., he gets worse. And when I'm happy and optimistic, he does better. Watch, and you'll see the same in your dog too.<sup>3</sup>**

**The flip side of cancer is that the #1 best correlation for cancer survival and cure is a positive healing attitude. Another study I found basically concluded that the number one factor for curing cancer is "a positive emotional attitude." People who walk around "knowing" or "believing" - really believing - that they're going to heal, on average live significantly longer than those who "expect" to die.<sup>4</sup>**

**These studies fit perfectly with everything I've been taught about cancer. That cancer is an energetic/emotional disease - the physical manifestation of fear, worry and other negative energy.<sup>5</sup> Yes, of course, cancer has a physical side too (that's obvious). But while I can't prove it, I'd be willing to bet big money that more unhappy, depressed people develop cancer than happy people. If you're sad and depressed..., if you're struggling emotionally... cancer forms and thrives off that.<sup>6</sup>**

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<sup>3</sup> [One now healed former cancer patient wrote] "For me the first and hardest part was healing the mind, losing the 'Cancer is Killing Me' idea and coming to terms with the emotional trauma... Once I believed with my heart that my body can overcome the disease there was an overnight improvement in general health." Quoted by <http://www.healingcancernaturally.com/healing-cancer-and-your-mind.html>

<sup>4</sup> See <http://www.healingcancernaturally.com/laughter-is-medicine.html>. In Appendix C, I include a special visualization system written by an expert who works with dogs on an energetic level every day. I do a version of this visualization with Marty every single day, and have found it hugely valuable in keeping him (and me) on a positive healing track.

<sup>5</sup> See <http://www.healingcancernaturally.com/emotions-and-cancer-healing.html>

<sup>6</sup> Again, don't get me wrong. I'm not saying happy people NEVER get cancer. For example, if you grow up in Chernobyl or on a toxic waste dump, you'll have a pretty good chance of getting

But, if you can stay happy and active and in a positive space, cancer is beatable.

And better still, since dogs are among the best healers on the planet, in the right healing environment they have the ability to cure themselves of almost any disease - including cancer.

That's why it's so important that we, the owner, stay positive. That we believe our dog **is going to heal** and return to the way we knew before he got sick. No matter how hard it may be at any given moment, this positive attitude is **CRITICAL** for your dog to heal.<sup>7</sup>

Which is why it was critical for me (and for you) to hear that advice - "Ignore your conventional vet when it comes to Fighting Canine Cancer. They have no idea what they're talking about." To break my fear. To break our natural instinct to believe whatever a doctor or trained professional tells us. Because when it comes to diagnosing the final results of cancer - let alone predicting the date of death of your dog... "THE VETS KNOW NOTHING!!!!"<sup>8</sup>

Marty is proof of this. Bear was proof of this. Story after story after story after story - and I've heard hundreds of them - of dogs given no chance to survive - yet they survived anyway.... These "MIRACLES" (you know, the ones that happen every single day) are complete and utter proof.

Only time knows whether or not your dog will survive cancer...

### **The Vets Know Nothing!!!**

Remember this, before you throw in the towel and resign yourself to failure.

Remember it, for the sake of your dog.

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cancer whether you're happy or not. But absent those side factors, many people believe that Cancer is the body's ultimate physical reaction to long term negative emotions.

<sup>7</sup> In Chapter 14 below, I discuss some of the techniques that help me maintain this positive mental attitude.

<sup>8</sup> I know I sound hard on veterinarians. And I really don't want to belittle them or overstate what they know and what they don't know. There are certainly many wonderful vets. They are trained experts and critical for the care of your pet in most cases. It's just that, when dealing with canine cancer, most "traditional" vets see only the "western medical" perspective - which, as I discuss in Chapter 4 below, can often do more harm than good. So at this time, when we first hear this horrible diagnosis, it's critical for us NOT to buy into what they say - especially if they're saying there's nothing you can do to help. It's important to get that diagnosis - and that "time limit" - out of our heads. That's why I urge you to reject anything different that your vet may say, and listen to my story of Marty, and continue to believe that while there are never any guarantees, THERE IS **ALWAYS** HOPE FOR A CURE.

~ ~ ~

## **Chapter 3: The Road Ahead**

I get phone calls and e-mails all the time from dog owners wanting to help their dogs who have been diagnosed with cancer. They call seeking guidance and hope - and to understand what's going on.

What I describe in this book is pretty much the advice I share with them when they call. And hopefully, this advice will help you save your dog too.

But first, you need to know this journey won't be easy. Sorry to be the one to tell you - but there are no magic potions or shortcuts in this process. The cancer your dog is battling is a nasty disease - it's a killer - and most likely it's going to push your dog's healing abilities to the limit.

And for better or worse, your dog is going to have to do most of the work. He's going to have to struggle through the discomfort, perhaps some nausea, maybe even some pain. All we can do is make him as comfortable as possible and support him as best we can - to give him the best possible chance to heal.

### **Nurse and Caretaker**

From now until the end, you've just become your dog's nurse and caretaker - and there's a lot of work to be done. There will be supplements and medicines to prepare every day,<sup>9</sup> cleaning up vomit and mess as he processes and purges what he needs to take care of himself. There will be lots of time and effort preparing healthy foods and supplements that boost his immune system and allow him to heal. It will be costly as well - unfortunately the supplements we use to support this healing can get pretty costly.

And it's a role I proudly and happily play for Marty.

As much as I hate him having to be sick, caring for him at this level has taught me important life lessons about love and responsibility - and given me a chance to repay him for all he's given me over the years.

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<sup>9</sup> One remedy I used for Marty, required me to treat him every 10 minutes for 2 consecutive hours - every day for 10 consecutive days. Luckily most remedies don't require that much work - and I'll teach you lots of tricks and shortcuts to make the care process much easier - but sometimes there's just no choice if you want him to heal.



## **Re-Arranging Your Life**

**How much you re-arrange your life when your dog has cancer is a personal question that can be a challenge at times.**

**I've had clients who literally quit their jobs - or canceled their vacations, etc. - because they wanted to minimize the stress of separation and didn't have anyone else to care for their dog.**

**Sometimes these changes are possible, but sometimes you just don't have a choice - and just because your dog has cancer doesn't mean you shouldn't have a life as well.**

**When Marty first got sick, I had some business travel already scheduled and struggled over what to do for his care. But I was fortunate. I found a wonderful woman name Lisa (a dog trainer and former vet technician), who was happy to take care of Marty while I was away.**

**I trusted Lisa to take care of Marty, and to complete his entire cancer fighting regimen,<sup>10</sup> so I felt confident when I had to travel out of town. But if you don't have someone like Lisa available to you, you may have a tough decision to make.**

**Marty happened to love staying at Lisa's house (he had lots of friends to play with there), but some dogs struggle when their owners are away. And this struggle can affect their healing.**

**So ultimately, how you re-arrange your life is a personal decision - based on your individual circumstances. If you worry that stress might interfere with your dogs health, and can't find other ways to make sure he's taken care of, this may mean canceling a vacation or postponing it, or making other changes in your life. But sometimes, it just means figuring out a better place or way to make sure he's taken care of.**

**In the end, just do your best. Keep in mind that even though your dog is sick, you should continue to live your life - because your dog would want you to. But he needs you to care for him too - so you'll have to figure out the best way to do both.**

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<sup>10</sup> You'd be amazed by the extensive "novel" I'd prepare for Lisa whenever I left - packed with page after page of notes about everything that needed to be done for Marty's care. But I knew that by leaving these instructions with her everything would get done.

## **Remember to Cherish The Moments**

One “benefit” of caring for your dog with cancer is that watching him suffer through this battle will likely help you appreciate just how much he means to you. The little things, the sound of his bark, the wag of his tail, the way he plays fetch and how he feels cuddled against you - things we often take for granted during healthy times - will suddenly become cherished events.

Most likely, your dog will go through periods of ups and downs during his healing process. And though the “up” times may be few and far between, cherish them when they come. Take in the beauty of the simplest act of fun and friendship.

How many dog owners, after all, jump and dance for joy - literally - as I do, when their dog runs after a Frisbee thrown across the park. Simple moments I thought I’d never experience again - small joyful miracles that make it all worthwhile.

And in some small way, the memories you create during these special moments may end up being some of the best of the entire time you spend with your beloved friend.

So cherish the moments - I know I always do with Marty - and be thankful when they come.

## **How Much Is This Going To Cost?**

When Marty was first diagnosed with cancer, I asked his veterinarians how much it would cost to put him through the MRIs and radiation therapy they recommended - you know, the treatments that would extend his life by 6 whole months.... Their answer was about \$6,000.

That was a shockingly large bill - and (for me) NOT worth investing for a mere 6 month life extension. Not that I couldn’t afford it, because fortunately I could. It would stretch me for sure, but I could cover the expense if I had to. So, as I told the veterinarian not to expect Marty at his recommended radiation therapy sessions, I also decided that this \$6,000 price tag was now my “budget” to find alternative healing methods that would really, truly give Marty a chance to beat this disease.

Well, I've long since blown through this \$6,000 "limit"<sup>11</sup> - and still find myself spending quite a bit each month on his supplements and support.<sup>12</sup> Weekly vet visits, a combination of over 20 different supplements and natural medicines (which I'll discuss in detail below)... Not to mention the things I don't do because they're just too much for my budget. I just work a little harder - and adjust my other spending - to make sure he gets what he needs to heal.

So if you think this process is going to be easy or cheap, this is your 8 o'clock wake up call. Sorry to be the bearer of bad news.

### **Fighting Dog Cancer on a Budget**

Just because I spent a certain amount paying for Marty's care doesn't mean you need to spend the same to get your dog the care he needs.

The truth is, whether you have infinite resources to try every cancer treatment imaginable, or live on the tightest of budgets, there are many things you can do throughout this book to help your dog heal.

To help you get the most from your cancer fighting "Budget," I've added a special bonus to this book (Bonus #5) that suggests different treatment options to consider depending on the size of your budget available for your dog's cancer care.

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<sup>11</sup> The AMAZING "reason" why natural treatments can sometimes cost even **more** than conventional care is because **YOUR DOG LIVES LONGER**. Not only did I blow through Marty's \$6,000 cancer care budget, I also blew past the 6 month "Expiration Date" his conventional vets wanted to give him. Marty's care cost more because he lived 3 **TIMES LONGER** than his vets thought possible - and believe me, having that "Bonus Time" with Marty was worth every extra dollar I spent and more!!!

<sup>12</sup> Remember that your healing process may be much **LESS** expensive than the one I use for Marty (or much more expensive, depending on what you can afford and what you decide to use). Marty's care would be **MUCH** less costly if I just cut out one "mega-expensive" supplement (called Poly-MVA) which costs almost \$1,000 per month and which I describe in Chapter 10 below. Unfortunately, for Marty, that just happens to be one of the more effective parts of his treatment - so since I can afford to, I keep it in the mix. Regardless of what you can afford, just do your best to provide the best possible healing environment, and hopefully, your dog will find the way to do the rest. And to learn ways to fight your dog's cancer on ANY budget, see Bonus #5 to this book.

## **Answers to Your 10 Biggest Questions About Fighting Canine Cancer...**

**Question: I'm out of work and in extreme financial distress. I can't imagine life without my dog, but desperately need help to pay for his cancer care. Do you know anyone who can help me?**

**Answer:** Believe me, I understand how expensive fighting dog cancer can be. For many, it can stretch us to our financial limits and force us to make choices we don't want to have to make.

Always remember that there are things you can do for your dog even on the smallest of budgets - things I share in Bonus #5 to this book.

But if you need more, I do know of two U.S. based charities that provide grants for people who can't afford the cost of their dog's cancer care.<sup>13</sup> They are...

Canine Cancer Awareness - <http://www.caninecancerawareness.org>

and

The Magic Bullet Fund - <http://www.themagicbulletfund.org>

Both are wonderful organizations, but each has limited resources and a lot of people they are trying to help. So if you're not able to get a grant from them, here's another company that can be very helpful...

It's called "Care Credit" - <http://www.carecredit.com> - and they lend money to dog owners (even dog owners with credit limitations) to help pay for their dog's medical care.

Care Credit has very flexible, easy payments options, and can offer credit in many cases where help isn't otherwise available. It could be worth looking into if you haven't done so already.

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<sup>13</sup> I recently learned about one charity in Canada as well, the Farley Foundation, that looks like it "might" be able to help some dogs in Canada as well. I don't know much about this charity, but you can find them online at <http://www.farleyfoundation.org>.

### **The “Secret” to Paying Your Dog’s Cancer Bills Over Months (or Years)**

One IMPORTANT advantage of the natural treatments I share in this book is that, while they’re not cheap, they tend to be much less expensive “month-by-month” (and often much less expensive overall) compared to conventional dog cancer care.

Instead of having to write one large \$6,000 check to pay for isolated conventional “major medical” expenses, when using these natural treatments you’ll likely find yourself spending a few hundred dollars each month - here and there - spread out over the course of your dog’s care. In my experience, these monthly payments seemed significantly less, and were substantially easier to bear.

### **Just Do The Best You Can**

But even if you can’t keep up with the effort or price of the treatments I recommend, don’t worry. Just do the best you can. There are always things you can cut back, shortcuts you can take, and other less expensive things you can do to help.

And remember that given the right healing environment, dogs can heal themselves of many problems without any help from us at all. It’s just a question of how hard they’ll have to work to heal.

## **One Product I Recommend to My Clients: Pet Insurance**

Given the massive rise of cancer and other diseases in our pets, I always recommend that my clients consider getting pet insurance for their dogs. And, if available, I recommend they include a “Cancer Rider” on their policies. The cost of pet insurance is relatively inexpensive - even for the “premium” policies I recommend<sup>14</sup> - and the benefits if your dog is diagnosed with cancer can be significant.

I had pet insurance for Marty (as I do for all my dogs), and while it didn’t pay for everything, it reimbursed the cost of many treatments and came in very handy for Marty’s care.<sup>15</sup>

That’s the good news.

The bad news is that, unfortunately, virtually every Pet Insurance policy comes with a “Pre-Existing Condition” exception - so it’s extremely unlikely that you can get insurance for your dog once cancer has been diagnosed.

Still, since many of my clients have multiple dogs - or will adopt new dogs in the future - I always recommend they take preventative measures to cover those healthy friends with pet insurance just in case...

For a partial list of pet insurance companies to consider, visit:  
[www.fighting-canine-cancer.com/private/pet-insurance.html](http://www.fighting-canine-cancer.com/private/pet-insurance.html)

**All we can do, ever, is try to create the best possible healing environment - one that will give your dog the best possible chance of success. But ultimately, the healing will have to come from them.**

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<sup>14</sup> These premium policies generally don’t cost much more than the basic plans, but they provide substantially larger benefits in the case of diseases like cancer.

<sup>15</sup> Ideally, you should try to find a pet insurance policy that covers the “alternative” natural treatments that I talk about in this book. To help, I’ll show you some plans that are best at covering these alternative treatments on the website at [www.fighting-canine-cancer.com/private/pet-insurance.html](http://www.fighting-canine-cancer.com/private/pet-insurance.html). However, even more traditional pet insurance policies that cover primarily “conventional” cancer care can still be valuable since much of what your “alternative” vet will do for your dog’s care can also be billed as conventional treatments as well.

**So don't worry about what you can or cannot do. Just do the best you can and trust your dog to do his part as well.**

### **Helping *Other* Dogs Heal...**

**Caring for dogs with cancer can be very expensive, and many of my clients struggle to get their dogs the care they need.**

**Others, however, are more fortunate. They can afford to pay for their dog's care and more. And they want to reach out to help other dogs in the community get the care they need as well.**

**A few years ago I launched charity fundraisers called "The Dog Cancer Ride Across America" and "The Map of Heroes,"<sup>16</sup> to raise money for dog owners who can't afford the cost of their dog's cancer care. This effort has since expanded, and I've created a website where generous donors can make tax deductible charity donations that help other dogs get the care they deserve.<sup>17</sup>**

**[www.DogCancerCharity.com](http://www.DogCancerCharity.com)**

**If you're one of the fortunate people who have enough, and want to help others pay for their dog's cancer care, please visit Dog Cancer Charities, and make a tax deductible donation of any amount.<sup>18</sup> Thanks.**

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<sup>16</sup> You can find links to both "The Dog Cancer Ride Across America" and "The Map of Heroes" at [www.DogCancerCharity.com](http://www.DogCancerCharity.com).

<sup>17</sup> As a special bonus, I match all donations to [www.DogCancerCharity.com](http://www.DogCancerCharity.com) with scholarships that donate for free and reduced price my complete Fighting Canine Cancer book and bonus package to dog owners who can't afford to pay for this information. I can't afford to personally help everyone pay for their dog's treatments, but at least, as thanks for your donations, we can help everyone get the information they need to care for their dogs. Thank you.

<sup>18</sup> When you donate to [www.DogCancerCharity.com](http://www.DogCancerCharity.com), I've created a special thank you page called "The Map of Heroes" that, in exchange for your donation to help others, will allow you to create a tribute page to your own dog cancer hero (living or past, sick or healthy). You can visit the Map of Heroes at [www.MapofHeroes.com](http://www.MapofHeroes.com).

## **The Time to Start is *NOW!***

**Ideally, you want as much time as possible to fight your dog's cancer. The more time you have, the more likely your chance of finding a cure. There are many reasons for this:**

- **First, the earlier you catch the cancer, the less time the cancer will have had to grow, so more treatment options may be available. For example, surgery might be an excellent option to remove a tumor that's still small - but once the cancer spreads or grows too large that option may no longer work;**
- **Second, every dog is different, and every cancer is different - so it often takes time to come up with the right combination of remedies to heal;**
- **Third, since cancer is such a potent disease, maintaining your dog's strength is critical - so the earlier in the process you start, the more your dog's natural strength can help the healing process work;**
- **And finally, since some of the remedies I recommend work slowly, it can take time to turn things around - time your dog may not have if the cancer is too far advanced.**

**That's why you NEVER want to wait to start curing your dog's cancer - because the later it gets, the harder it gets to find a cure.<sup>19</sup>**

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<sup>19</sup> The minute you suspect your dog **might** have cancer, even if you end up being wrong, now it's time to get into action and start to fight back. Start cleaning up your dog's environment (as I discuss in Chapter 7 below), start making the nutrition changes I talk about in Chapter 8 below, start gathering the "Starter Kit" and other supplements I talk about in Chapters 10 and 11 below. Start taking these actions **NOW**. None of these things can hurt your dog (even the supplements - for the most part they're just vitamins), and all they can do is help. I wouldn't do the mega-expensive stuff right away - not until you're sure it's really cancer - but at least get started. And then, if you find out later that your dog doesn't have cancer you can always stop - or you may just choose to continue, since upgrading your dog's food, removing chemicals from his environment and adding vitamins to his diet can also be a wonderful cancer "preventative" going forward.



### **Last Minute Miracles**

**Unfortunately, by time we discover our dog's cancer, it's often because the cancer has gotten pretty advanced. So it's possible that people reading this book may need some "Last Minute Miracles" to save their dog's life.**

**If your dog is in this situation, I've included a special bonus at the back of this book which talks about things you can do to create these Last Minute Miracles. You can find that information attached to this book as Bonus #2**

**So, Yes! It's time to go to the health food store and get some cancer fighting supplements. Yes! It's time to start researching and changing your dog's diet. And Yes! There are people you need to start calling and things you need to start doing for your dog's care. Don't feel like you have to do it all right this minute - in most cases, not much is going to change in the next day or two.<sup>20</sup> But unless you start moving in the right direction now, you're job is going to be that much harder down the road - and your chances of success that much less.**

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<sup>20</sup> I often tell my clients "There's virtually nothing you can do in the next ten to twelve hours that will make a big difference one way or the other for your dog's cancer care. It's what you do in the next ten to twelve **DAYS**, ten to twelve **WEEKS** and beyond, that will be critical for your dog's cancer care." So while it's important to start fighting your dog's cancer as early as possible, in most cases there's no reason to panic at this point and time.

## **The “Wait and Watch” Nightmare...**

**One thing I HATE to hear from clients is that they’re waiting for final results of their dog’s tests before buying my book or taking action - or even worse, when their vet says the tumor is relatively small, "so we’ll just ‘wait and watch’ and see what happens”...<sup>21</sup>**

**Do NOT EVER follow this “wait and watch” advice - if you do, you’ll be following it AT YOUR DOG’S PERIL!!! - Wait and watch is about the worst advice ever for a dog with cancer, and by doing nothing you can often be sure that the cancer WILL return and grow - with a vengeance.**

**Cancer is not a “wait and watch” kind of disease - it’s aggressive, and powerful, and sneaky, and deadly! Even if it’s small and manageable now, you can be sure it’s working non-stop to get big and scary as quickly as possible - and even if you can’t see it, I hate to tell you but there’s a MUCH better chance it’s hiding (or waiting to start a new outbreak) than you can imagine.**

**The ONLY way to fight cancer is to assume the worst and start fighting hard RIGHT NOW, no matter how healthy your dog may look or how small or insignificant the cancer may seem...**

**I’ve received so many messages from clients who were sure their dog’s cancer was “cured” and who were told to “wait and watch” for a recurrence before resuming treatment - only to discover the cancer’s return too late, and now they mourn the loss of their dog who they once thought was doing so well...**

**Do NOT let that be you - if your vet tells you to “wait and watch” please, find another vet - because the best way to help your dog live a long and healthy life is to keep fighting the cancer hard - along the lines I talk about in this book - even when it seems these treatments may not be needed right now...**

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<sup>21</sup> Other variations of this scenario can be: “the surgery/radiation/chemo treatment went really well, so now we’ll just wait and watch to see if the cancer returns” or “my dog is acting so healthy, so I’m not going to worry about the cancer until it gets worse.” These are all *dangerous* scenarios - extremely dangerous - and to be avoided.

## **Chapter 4: The Trouble With "Conventional" Canine Cancer "Cures"**

I'm no doctor. So treat everything I say as my opinion. But in my humble opinion, traditional "western" veterinary cancer treatments seem to me somewhat "barbaric." OK, maybe that's too strong of a word, but I believe a hundred years from now, when people look back at the treatments we use on cancer patients today - radiation, chemotherapy, etc. - they'll be shocked. They'll shake their heads and wonder, like we do when we look back at the "medical" treatments of the Middle Ages - when doctors used leeches to "cure" diseases that had invaded the body.

The concept of leeches, as I understand it, was to suck out toxins that had invaded a patient's body. Leeches would suck the blood from a patient and hopefully the toxins would disappear before the patient died of severe blood loss. And sometimes it worked. But often, the patient just... well, died of severe blood loss.

In my mind, many modern cancer treatments work on similar principals. We radiate the body. We put patients through chemotherapy.<sup>22</sup> Basically we "poison" people and pets and hope to kill the cancer cells before the poison kills the patient.

Is that wrong? No. For the most part it's the best medicine we know. (Just like leeches were all they knew in the Middle Ages.)

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<sup>22</sup> For a description of some of the evidence AGAINST chemotherapy, check out these links - [http://www.polymvasurvivors.com/truth\\_chemo.html](http://www.polymvasurvivors.com/truth_chemo.html), <http://www.newstarget.com/012727.html>, <http://www.healingcancernaturally.com/alternative-cancer-treatment-2.html#On%20Chemotherapy> and <http://www.curenaturalcancro.com/2-physicians-refuse-chemo.html> "The great lack of trust is evident even amongst doctors. Polls and questionnaires show that three doctors out of four (75%) would refuse any chemotherapy because of its ineffectiveness against the disease and its devastating effects on the entire... organism"

## **What If You've Already Started Your Dog Down the Conventional Treatment Route?**

If you've already started your dog on "traditional" cancer treatments - chemotherapy, radiation, etc. - don't worry. First of all, there's a reason why vets use these treatments - because they do have some beneficial effects and can work in certain cases.<sup>23</sup> (The real issues - as I discuss below - are for how long and at what cost.)

But, as I also discuss below, if your dog is currently undergoing these conventional treatments, then the nutrition, supplement and energy treatments I talk about in this book may be **EVEN MORE IMPORTANT** for your dog. To minimize the stress and side effects of the conventional treatments themselves, and to give your dog the strength he needs to continue the fight once those conventional treatments come to an end.

And yes, in many cases "traditional" western cancer treatments do work. Why? Because in many cases - especially in humans who are young and strong - the patient does have the strength and energy needed to survive the process. And given our 60+ year life expectancy, who cares if we suffer a few miserable months (or even years), as long as it gives us the chance to live cancer free for years to come.

In our pets, however, these treatments may not work quite as well. Dogs are generally smaller and lighter and can't handle the same levels of poisons we can endure. Plus as owners, *we're* unwilling to deal with the side effects of hitting our pets with full doses of these treatments<sup>24</sup> (hair fallout, massive nausea, cardiac failure, etc.). And with a total lifespan of just 10-15 years, how much suffering can we put them through for just a few more short years of life.

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<sup>23</sup> Many vets who oppose chemotherapy in the vast majority of cases, are still careful to point out that certain tumors do respond well to certain types of chemotherapy and radiation, and that each case must be diagnosed and treated individually.

<sup>24</sup> See "The Natural Vet's Guide to Preventing and Treating Cancer in Dogs" by Shawn Messonnier, DVM, p.82

That's why, as my veterinary cancer specialist friend once told me, traditional veterinarians often just work to make our pet's life comfortable and resign themselves to the "fact" that the animal patient is going to die of cancer.<sup>25</sup>

### **Chemo and Radiation: Doing More Harm Than Good?**

Even worse, many natural healers - including the ones who saved Marty's life - believe that traditional cancer treatments can actually prevent your dog from curing cancer.

Whenever you introduce poisons into the system they attack the body's natural immune system and cause a healing crisis of sorts - that IS the purpose of the poison after all. And then, once you stop chemotherapy or radiation treatments, your dog's natural healing ability may be so compromised that it becomes impossible for him to heal himself.

And to make matters worse, some conventional vets recommend that you avoid giving your dog many of the nutritional supplements I describe in this book - the ones that boost your dog's natural immune system - while he undergoes traditional cancer treatment. That's because certain supplements (particularly antioxidants), by boosting your dog's natural healing process, can actually interfere with the poison being used to kill the cancer.<sup>26</sup> So essentially, at this time when your dog needs as much immune system support as possible, you may have to withhold it just to let the poison have it's way.<sup>27</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> See also, "The Natural Vet's Guide to Preventing and Treating Cancer in Dogs" by Shawn Messonnier, DVM, at p.82, "While Chemotherapy may cure some cancers, we often use chemotherapy for palliation, to make the pet feel better and live longer, but not to cure the pet" and p.99 "Remember that quality of life, not cure, is the goal for most of our pet patients."

<sup>26</sup> See, "The Natural Vet's Guide to Preventing and Treating Cancer in Dogs" by Shawn Messonnier, DVM, at p.110-111, "One question that arises frequently is whether or not the use of supplements (particularly antioxidants) will hurt pets with cancer by interfering with their conventional treatments? This is actually a very controversial topic in both human and veterinary cancer medicine."

<sup>27</sup> In addition, some vets discourage the use of supplements to avoid "confusion" in case your dog gets sick - fearing they won't know whether the sickness came from the supplements or the chemotherapy itself. See, e.g., p.85 of "Help Your Dog Fight Cancer: An Overview of Home Care Options" by Laurie Kaplan

### **Chemo and Radiation: Doing More Harm Than Good? (continued...)**

**This seems crazy to me. But it can be reality when it comes to conventional cancer treatments like chemotherapy and radiation.**

**(Note: Despite the above cautions, many vets are quick to advise that “With rare exception, there is no need to worry about supplements... interfering with conventional cancer treatments.”<sup>28</sup> But if you do use conventional cancer treatments, be careful to work closely with your vet to make sure you agree about what supplements are appropriate to give your dog.)**

### **An Excellent Chance for a “Short Term” Success**

**In most cases, “conventional” canine cancer treatments (chemotherapy, radiation, etc.) come with their own built in “time limit.” They’re pretty much known quantities - a high likelihood that your dog WILL go into remission, but only for a short period of time. And after that short remission, there will be little traditional vets can do to repeat the process.**

### **The Surgery Exception?**

**When Marty was first diagnosed with cancer I asked the vets whether surgery was an option. Unfortunately, given the location and size of his tumor, surgery just wasn’t possible.**

**If surgery HAD been an option, however, it’s one I would have seriously considered. Sure, surgery is invasive and can strain your dog’s immune system - it took Marty weeks to recover from the minor surgical biopsy the doctors used to determine whether he even had cancer - but the long term side effects and immune system challenges are substantially less than from drawn out procedures like chemotherapy and radiation.**

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<sup>28</sup> See, “The Natural Vet’s Guide to Preventing and Treating Cancer in Dogs” by Shawn Messonnier, DVM, at p.111

### **The Surgery Exception? (continued...)**

Plus, in certain cases, surgery can actually remove the entire cancerous area. And in those cases, there really IS a chance for a long lasting cure.<sup>29</sup>

So if surgery IS an option, I recommend that you ask the same questions you would ask about other treatment options - What are the chances of a complete cure? What are the risks? Can your dog handle the stress of surgery at his age (or in his condition)? etc. - Then, once you have all the information, you can decide whether surgery is right for your dog.

### **Losing a Leg to Save a Life**

For some dogs, the surgery option may call for amputation of an entire leg (or removal of some bone mass, such as jawbone, etc.) to remove all of the cancer from his body.

I often have clients who ask me about how this amputation (or removal) will affect their dog...

And, while it can vary from case-to-case and dog-to-dog, the truth is that most healthy dogs generally adapt unbelievably well to amputation or removal of bone mass<sup>30</sup> - so well that there are entire websites and support groups dedicated entirely to dogs with just 3 legs ("Tripod Dogs" as they're affectionately called)

To learn more about dogs who have survived (and thrived) following amputation, check out the Tripawd website at [www.fighting-canine-cancer.com/private/TriPawds.html](http://www.fighting-canine-cancer.com/private/TriPawds.html).

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<sup>29</sup> Still, as I discuss in greater detail in the sidebox below, even after successful surgery you need to be careful that you're not exposing your dog to the same elements (chemical, nutritional, emotional, etc.) that caused the cancer in the first place. Also, it's vitally important to address your dog's overall health and boost his immune system following surgery. Otherwise there's always a risk that the cancer may return and you may need to start the healing process all over again.

<sup>30</sup> In 2008 I rode my bicycle cross-country on "The Dog Cancer Ride Across America" - my annual benefit to raise money for dog cancer charities (see [www.dogcancerride.com](http://www.dogcancerride.com)). And while riding through Asheville, N.C., I met a dog who had recently had a "nosectemoy" (the doctors had literally removed the dog's nose) to remove a cancerous tumor. And the truth is, the dog looked

## **Answers to Your 10 Biggest Questions About Fighting Canine Cancer...**

**Question: "Great News!! My dog just got out of surgery and my vet told me they got 'clear margins'<sup>31</sup> and that my dog is now 'cancer free!' Is there anything more I should do now?"**

**Answer:** I get nervous whenever I get "clear margins" e-mails like this... Because sadly, these messages are often followed up by another message a few months later - something like...

*"I'm devastated. Out of nowhere my dog's cancer returned and now my best friend is gone. I can't believe he's gone..."*

So please, please, please, if your dog has surgery, don't make this "clear margin" mistake...

After surgery, it can be tempting to assume the cancer is gone and that you no longer have to do anything else to help your dog fight cancer. But unfortunately, too often, this is just not the case...

Even if your vet thinks he got all the cancer, it's quite possible some cells may have slipped through and will start to re-grow again - or, in many cases, the same circumstances (chemicals, poor nutrition, etc.) that caused the cancer in the first place may still be in your dog's environment and could cause a completely new tumor to form...

(Answer Continued on Next Page)

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terrible. But by removing the tumor (and the nose) the doctors had removed all of the cancer and had prolonged the dog's life by years. The dog's owner told me his dog looked so bad ("different" mostly) that children ran away in fear, but that the dog had no idea and didn't mind the way he looked at all. Another dog I met on my ride in 2009 had such a huge tumor in her face that her eye was literally popping out of the socket. Again, she didn't care a bit about how she looked - she was uncomfortable for sure, but otherwise was living a happy life out walking around town with her owner and such.

Dogs aren't vain about their appearance - they don't have bad hair days; don't even have bad nose days (or bad eye days). So please, don't worry about how your dog "looks" during the cancer process - worry about how they "feel" so they can enjoy their life, which is all that really matters. And if your dog does have bad (or scary looking) days, remember this wonderful line the woman with the bulging eye dog would tell children when they commented on her dog's appearance - She'd tell them that her dog "enjoyed Halloween so much, she decided to wear a scary mask every day" and that seemed to help.

<sup>31</sup> "Clear Margins" is the term cancer surgeons use when they are able to remove what they believe to be the entire tumor from your dog's body PLUS a safe "margin" of healthy (non-cancerous) tissue from around the outside of the tumor. See <http://www.wehealny.org/directory/combsite/gloss.html>. Their belief, which unfortunately isn't



**Answers to Your 10 Biggest Questions About Fighting Canine Cancer...**

**Question: "Great News!! My dog just got out of surgery and... is now 'cancer free!' Is there anything more I should do now?"**

**Answer (continued...):**

That's why even after a successful surgery, I ALWAYS recommend that my clients assume the cancer may still be hiding in their dog's body and continue a full "preventative" cancer fighting regimen - including nutrition, supplements and other care along the lines I discuss in this book.

In my experience, that method - treating the cancer like it's still there (even though you can't see it) as a preventative measure - is the best way by far to make sure your dog never has to deal with this problem again.

Because of our concern about potential side effects and discomfort to our pets, most conventional dog cancer treatments (like chemotherapy and radiation) use "low dose" protocols to minimize these effects. These "low dose" treatments DO significantly minimize the suffering and side effects associated with these conventional treatments - but, unfortunately, they *ALSO* significantly reduce the effectiveness of the treatments as well. Instead of attacking the cancer full-on, in an all-out effort to eliminate the tumor completely, low dose treatments focus only on reducing the size of the tumor, making your dog more comfortable for a while, but not eliminating the problem for the long run.<sup>32</sup>

Which is why conventional vets are often so good at "predicting" when your dog will die of cancer - because they know exactly when they're going to have to stop using their recommended low dose conventional treatments.<sup>33</sup> And

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always true, is that these "clear margins" mean all cancer has been removed and that no more cancer cells remain in the patient dog's body.

<sup>32</sup> "And because we're unwilling to deal with the side effects of full treatment doses, these reduced strength treatments are obviously less effective. This is another reason why canine cancer treatments tend to just 'shrink' the tumor temporarily and not eliminate it completely as they might with more massive doses." See "The Natural Vet's Guide to Preventing and Treating Cancer in Dogs" by Shawn Messonnier, DVM, p.99, "The trade-off is that chemotherapy usually doesn't kill all the cancer cells, and remissions don't last as long in pets as in people."

<sup>33</sup> Since conventional treatments, even low dose treatments, essentially inject poison into your dog's body, eventually you reach the limit on how long they can continue to be safely used.

once these conventional treatments end, they know that the tumor - which is now smaller, but still very much present - will start to grow again (rapidly), back to the size of the original tumor and beyond, until ultimately it takes over and causes your dog's death.

And to make matters worse, the poisons introduced into your dog's body by these conventional treatments have the nasty side effect of undermining your dog's natural immune system - which makes it next to impossible for your dog to continue fighting the cancer once these conventional treatments end. That's why it's rare for dogs using conventional cancer treatments to live much longer than the original "time limit" set by their vet.<sup>34</sup>

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<sup>34</sup> One exception, is where dog owners **ALSO** actively use nutrition and supplements along the lines I talk about in this book to maintain as much of their dog's immune system as much as possible throughout the conventional treatment process. A great example of this is can be found in Laurie Kaplan's book "Help Your Dog Fight Cancer: An Overview of Home Care Options" which describes how she used supplements and nutrition in addition to her dog Bullet's chemotherapy treatment with very good results. It's not the best solution, in my mind, but many holistic experts believe it's **WAY** better than relying on just the conventional treatments alone.

## **Answers to Your 10 Biggest Questions About Fighting Canine Cancer...**

**Question: "Do you know of clients who have used BOTH chemotherapy treatments and the natural supplements approach you recommend TOGETHER and had success?"**

**Answer:** The answer to this is Yes and No (but mostly NO)...

I DO have clients who end up using chemo (or radiation) for their dogs in addition to the natural treatments I talk about in this book - and they do so with varying degrees of success...

The trouble with combining these treatments is that chemotherapy and other conventional treatments tend to work in the opposite direction of the natural treatments I discuss in this book - one breaks down your dog's immune system in its effort to destroy cancer cells, while the other specifically works to boost your dog's immune system so HE can fight back against the cancer.

That's why most holistic vets agree that you generally need to choose between holistic and conventional cancer care - because chemo and other conventional dog cancer treatments generally make their holistic treatments MUCH LESS effective.

So in that respect, NO you generally can't combine BOTH chemotherapy and holistic remedies and hope to get the best results from natural dog cancer care.

However, as I discuss below (and here comes the Yes part...), despite the conflicts between chemotherapy and natural remedies - conflicts that cause natural remedies to be much LESS effective if you try to use both together - the opposite is true if chemotherapy is your primary method of care. In those cases, chemo treatments often work much BETTER if you add to them the natural nutrition, supplements and energy remedies I talk about in this book.<sup>35</sup>

So no matter what option you choose, I always recommend that you work with a holistic vet to support your dog with proper nutrition, supplements, and energy care - to make sure he has the best possible chance to heal.<sup>36</sup>

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<sup>35</sup> Plus, some of the natural supplements can even help your dog detoxify from the poisons introduced to his body by the chemotherapy treatments themselves.

<sup>36</sup> As for whether the combo of chemo PLUS supplements or natural supplements alone work best - lots of people have different beliefs (and different fears) on this subject. Personally, I side

**As I explained above, the “short term” benefits offered by these conventional dog cancer treatments simply wasn’t good enough for me.<sup>37</sup>**

**To use a baseball analogy - even if I lose, I’d much rather swing hard to see if I could hit a home run and win the game than take home a guaranteed consolation prize. There was definitely a chance that Marty and I could have lost - Marty might not have survived even the 6-months they promised me with their conventional treatments - but at least we’d try.**

**And more than 14 Months later, I’m happy I made the decision to take the risk. Extremely Happy.**

**With their option, Marty would have DEFINITELY been dead within 6 months. Instead, more than 14 months later, Marty is still happy and going strong.**

**Which option will you choose? Ultimately, that’s for you to decide.**

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with the holistic vets - and think that in most cases (but not all, which is why you should talk with a holistic vet about your dog’s specific condition) dogs have a better long-term chance of success with these natural treatments alone... But like I said, depending on the dog and the situation, many dog owners choose differently - and in the end, only you can decide what’s best for your dog.

<sup>37</sup> Another excellent resource to help you understand the limitations of “conventional” veterinary medicine is a wonderful short movie made by a holistic vet called “Dr. DoMore,” which you can watch online at [www.fighting-canine-cancer.com/private/dr-domore.html](http://www.fighting-canine-cancer.com/private/dr-domore.html).

## Should You Put Your Dog Through Conventional Chemotherapy or Radiation Treatments?

I can't answer that for you. I have no personal experience with either chemotherapy or radiation, because I refused to put my dog through these conventional treatments - though I've read numerous sad stories about dogs' experiences suffering through these conventional treatments. That's why I chose to use the natural cures I discuss in this book instead. I'm EXTREMELY happy I made this choice, but as always, ultimately you'll have to decide for yourself what's best for you.

But before you decide, I suggest you ask your vet what you can REALLY expect from these conventional treatments.

### What side effects will your pet have to endure...?

These side effects are certainly minimized by the reduced dosages used on pets - but it's safe to assume there will be SOME side effects and that these treatments will NOT be pleasant for you or your dog.<sup>38</sup> And some can even be deadly.<sup>39</sup> I can't tell you how many stories I read of people working hard to minimize the side effects to make these treatments easier for dog and owner.

And what results can you expect in the end? In most cases, I expect they will give you a "time limit" of how long they can extend your dog's life before the treatment stops being effective (for Marty that time limit was 6 months).

If that's what you want - a strong chance at a short term extension - then you should choose the conventional options. Just understand the natural healing possibilities you're giving up in exchange. Because, unfortunately, in most cases you can't have both.

All I can say is that, for me, except in extreme circumstances where it was far too late for natural cures to work and I was willing to "buy" a few extra months of life for my dog - I wouldn't choose to put my dog through these conventional treatments. The choice I made with Marty, and the one I'd make again in a heartbeat, would be to choose natural remedies that STRENGTHEN his immune system instead.<sup>40</sup>

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<sup>38</sup> Quoting from to one dog cancer book (which actually encourages the use of chemotherapy for dog cancer care) "The most common side effects of chemotherapy include vomiting, loss of appetite, and damage to blood cells... Diarrhea can be another effect of the chemotherapy

## Answers to Your 10 Biggest Questions About Fighting Canine Cancer...

### Question: "Despite Your Concerns About Chemotherapy for Dogs, are there Any Types of Dog Cancer that You WOULD Recommend Treating with Chemotherapy?"

**Answer:** In my mind, the decision about whether to treat your dog with chemotherapy really depends on the "prognosis" your vet is willing to give you for that option. Dog cancer chemotherapy protocols are getting better, so if your vet can look you in the eye and say that you can expect "excellent" results from the treatment (for example, total cure or even a few extra YEARS of remission) then in those cases chemotherapy can be an option worth considering.<sup>41</sup>

(Answer Continued on Next Page)

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drugs... Not eating well may simply be a side effect of the nausea... A more immediately serious side effect can be an allergic reaction to the drug used.... Fevers may occur as a result of the medication itself... Sadly, your pet will become accustomed to many blood test over the course of chemotherapy... Hair loss is devastating to people, but pets don't seem to mind it... Cardiac effects of some chemotherapy drugs may be life threatening... A fairly common complication of treatment [for one particular chemotherapy drug] is bloody urine.... [and] There are a few chemotherapy drugs that can cause neurological signs - this could mean disorientation or even seizures." See, "Cancer and Your Pet" by Debra Eldridge, DVM and Margaret H. Bonham, pages 137-140. And for dogs treated by radiation, while the list of potential side effects are fewer there are "certain drawbacks, which include... having to sedate or anesthetize the dog for each treatment." See <http://www.caninecancer.com/Mast.html>.

<sup>39</sup> According to one major veterinary support website, "Only 7% of [dog cancer] patients require hospitalization due to side effects of chemotherapy."

<http://www.veterinarypartner.com/Content.plx?P=A&A=575>. In other words... "ONLY" 1 out of every 14 dogs need to be HOSPITALIZED due to the side effects of chemotherapy - to me that's hardly comforting when conventional vets claim there are no real risks or side effects from canine chemotherapy treatments.

<sup>40</sup> Unless you're confident that your vet is open to alternative remedies, here's one question that I would definitely NOT ask your conventional vet - "What do you think about *not* doing chemo and using natural supplements instead?" If you do ask this, expect your vet to say something like "Oh, that would be a horrible decision." Why? Because their business is to do chemo - in many cases that's all they know. There's an old adage that "when the only tool that you have to work with is a hammer, every problem starts to look like a nail." Well chemo is their hammer, and your dog is the nail. Instead, seek a SECOND opinion, from a qualified "holistic" vet, to learn the truth about holistic remedies and what you can expect from someone who has real experience with their use.

<sup>41</sup> Even when the chance of long term success is good, however, many dog owners still choose NOT to put their dogs through the physical stress and side effects of Chemo treatments and choose to use natural remedies instead. These stresses, side effects, and other factors (cost, etc.) should all be factored into your final decision even in cases where chemo could offer a reasonable extension of your dog's life.

**Answers to Your 10 Biggest Questions About  
Fighting Canine Cancer...**

**Question: "...Are there Any Types of Dog Cancer that You  
WOULD Recommend Treating with Chemotherapy?"**

**Answer (continued...):**

Unfortunately, however, from experience working with thousands of dog owners, the chemotherapy "prognosis" usually isn't all that great - 4 to 6 months seems to be their magic number - and it's in those cases (where essentially your vet tells you that the chemo treatments JUST WON'T WORK!) that I rebel against chemo for our dogs.

That being said, there is one type of dog cancer that seems to respond better to chemotherapy treatments than others - Canine Lymphoma (or Canine Lymphosarcoma). And while I'm not a vet (so I can't diagnose or recommend treatments for your dog's particular case), the natural vets I work with, while still not recommending the use of these chemotherapy options, do generally seem more open to chemotherapy options in cases of Lymphoma.<sup>42</sup>

Again, whether you choose chemotherapy for your dog with Lymphoma will depend on many factors, so I would DEFINITELY consult with a holistic vet about the advantages (and disadvantages) of chemotherapy vs. natural cancer care.

And REMEMBER, even if you do decide to use chemotherapy for your dog, you definitely want to combine those treatments with the nutrition, supplements and other natural treatments I share in this book to help your dog get the best possible results.

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<sup>42</sup> I wouldn't go so far as to say that they "recommend" chemotherapy for dogs Lymphoma - because generally they don't - but they recognize that the statistical results that Lymphoma treated with chemotherapy tends to do significantly better than other types of cancer treated with chemotherapy, so in my experience they don't discount chemo for Lymphoma as much as they do for other cancer diagnoses.

**And Finally...  
Chemotherapy - Don't Do it Alone**

No matter what, if you do choose to use chemotherapy for your dog, I urge you NOT to try it alone...

Even in low doses, chemo treatments are going to undermine your dog's immune system - and at some point, when the chemo treatments end, your dog isn't going to have enough immune system left to keep fighting the cancer.

And from what I've seen and heard, that's a recipe for a very short life.

In the 3 years I've spent working with over 12,000 dog owners helping them care for their sick dogs, I rarely hear about successful chemo treatments long-term. I hear about plenty of dogs who do great for four to six months, but rarely do I hear about long-term success.

And in virtually every case where I DO hear about longer term success, it's from dog owners who didn't just do the chemo, but used a combination of treatments - chemo plus changes to their dog's nutrition,<sup>43</sup> chemo plus the supplements I talk about in this book, chemo plus cleaning up their dog's environment - chemo PLUS, PLUS, PLUS...

If you do use chemo, these "pluses" can help your dog stay strong throughout the process and minimize the side effects - and then, once the treatments are done, help salvage at least *part* of your dog's immune system, so he'll have some chance left to continue the fight on his own...

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<sup>43</sup> For example, in one study related to changes in diet alone, dogs who combined a particular cancer fighting dog food with their chemo treatments had a survival rate that "increased to 354 days, as compared to 130 for dogs given the chemotherapy and regular dog food"  
<http://www.fundinguniverse.com/company-histories/Hills-Pet-Nutrition-Inc-Company-History.html>



**Chapter 5:  
Answers to Questions About Other  
Conventional Treatment Options**

**Chapter 5 is Not Included  
in this  
Preview Versio of the Book**

## **Chapter 6:** **Letting Dogs Be Dogs**

When I first started treating Marty's cancer, I decided to do for him the things I would do for myself if I was ever diagnosed with a similar condition. Instead of poisoning out the bad (and hoping I didn't poison him even worse), I chose to promote his good health, boost his immune system, and allow him to heal through positive reinforcement, nutritional supplements, and natural and homeopathic medicine. I prefer to focus on the hope that his positive healing process will be strong enough to take charge and defeat the cancer. And so far that hope has been wonderfully rewarded.

Now the good news is that dogs are better - much better - than we are at healing their bodies. They have tremendous capacity for healing.

When I first started treating Marty, I got as much advice as I could from people who work with dogs. And as I started talking to friends and other people who had been through similar experiences, I started to hear over-and-over about canine "miracles." Dog after dog who had survived for years, despite being told they had only a few months to live.

I have a good friend who owns a large ranch in California. She raises horses and cattle and sheep, and has lots of dogs who work and wander around the property. And she, in particular, reinforced just how strong is the healing power of dogs.

She taught me that...

**This concludes your free preview of**

### **Fighting Canine Cancer: An Alternative Approach by Ted Schneck**

**To read the rest of the book  
please visit:**

**<http://www.dogcancergroup.com/book>**