

# Practical aspects of **STELFONTA**<sup>®</sup> (tigilanol tiglate injection)

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GUIDE FOR VETERINARIANS  
ADMINISTERING STELFONTA



**STELFONTA**  
(tigilanol tiglate injection)

**Virbac**

# STELFONTA<sup>®</sup> (tigilanol tiglate injection)

## PRACTICAL ASPECTS OF ADMINISTRATION

Geography: USA

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# OVERVIEW

**Considerations for case selection:** Tumor location, volume and ulceration along with patient stage of disease; patient concurrent medications, concurrent disease and temperament; owner ability to administer concomitant medications and comfort with wound management. See pages 10-16.

## Pet Owner Education

Ensure pet owners are prepared for the stages of STELFONTA® (tigilanol tiglate injection) treatment including anticipating the wound, potential reactions and that they know when, with whom and how to communicate any concerns. A helpful resource specifically for pet owners is [www.stelfonta.com](http://www.stelfonta.com).

STELFONTA is often administered earlier in the week, so the pet owner has access to the primary treating clinician during regular working hours, to address any concerns post treatment.

### Treatment protocol consists of 4 stages:

#### 1 Concomitant medications

- » Essential medications to reduce the risk of mast cell degranulation (including death):
  - Corticosteroids (oral prednisone or prednisolone at anti-inflammatory doses), commencing 2 days prior to injection day for a total of 10 days (2 days prior, treatment day and 7 days after treatment).
  - H1 (oral diphenhydramine) and H2 (oral famotidine) blocking agents, commencing on injection day, continuing for 8 days.



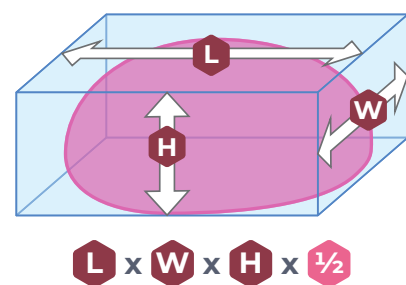
Pre-emptive analgesia to minimize discomfort is recommended prior to, during and after treatment with STELFONTA.

Drug	Day -2		Day -1		Treatment Day 0		Day 1		Day 2		Day 3		Day 4		Day 5		Day 6		Day 7		
	am	pm	am	pm	am	pm	am	pm	am	pm	am	pm	am	pm	am	pm	am	pm	am	pm	
Corticosteroid (prednisone/prednisolone 0.5 mg/kg PO)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	
H1 blocker (diphenhydramine 2 mg/kg PO q12hr)					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
H2 blocker (famotidine 0.5 mg/kg PO q12hr)					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pre-emptive pain relief					Recommended: pre-emptive pain management																

#### 2 STELFONTA injection

- » Sedation of patient may be required to ensure accurate and safe injection of tumor site while minimizing risk of self-injection.
- » Shaving the hair surrounding the tumor will help visualize the tumor and aid accurate calculation of the tumor volume.

Modified ellipsoid calculation



- » Tumor surface should be intact; the drug can leak from ulcerated surfaces or biopsy sites.
- » **Tumor volume:** Re-measure the tumor on treatment day ( $L \times W \times H \times \frac{1}{2}$ ) and confirm the volume does not exceed  $10\text{cm}^3$ .

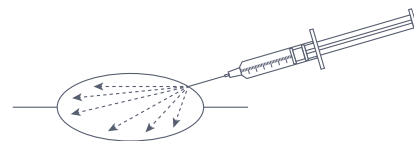
- » **Dose:** Tumor volume  $\times 0.5 = \text{mL of STELFONTA}^{\text{®}}$  (tigilanol tiglate injection) to be injected. Use the [Dose calculator](#).



*Dose Calculator*

- » Ensure the total dose does not exceed 5 mL or 0.25 mL/kg and is not less than 0.1 mL. If the calculated dose is  $<0.1 \text{ mL}$ , administer 0.1 mL. DO NOT treat if the required dose exceeds 5 mL or 0.25 mL/kg.

#### Cross section view



- » Administer STELFONTA in a fanning motion through a single injection point with a Luer-Lock syringe and 23 gauge needle.

- » The treated tumor site is usually left uncovered unless there's a risk of self-trauma, in which case an Elizabethan collar or a loose, dry gauze bandage may be used.

- » Pre-emptive, proactive analgesia is recommended. Monitor and adjust pain management plan as needed.

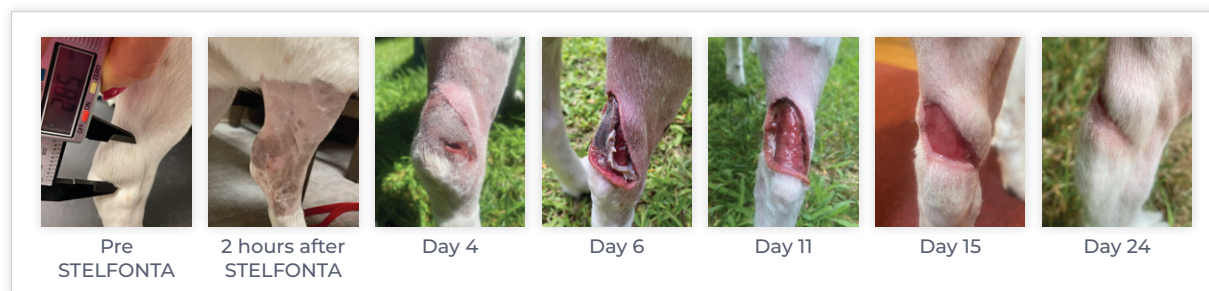
- » If degranulation occurs, signs are typically seen in the first 5-7 days of treatment. Early detection and treatment is critical to reduce the serious effects of degranulation.

### 3

#### **Tumor destruction**

- » Within minutes STELFONTA starts to work; within hours acute inflammatory response is evident.
- » 4 to 7 days: tumor destruction, via hemorrhagic necrosis and oncolysis, is typically seen.
- » Discuss with owners that they should not allow the dog to lick the site for the first few days after treatment and they should discourage excessive licking for the remainder of the healing period. Tongue lesions have been reported.
- » Necrotic tumor mass will slough away leaving a 'pocket' or wound which may be extensive.

#### **Tumor destruction and healing typically occurs between 4-6 weeks\*.**



*\*Some cases have more extensive wounds and take longer to heal*

4

**Tumor site healing**, via second intention

- » Most wounds fully heal within 4-6 weeks. However, some wounds may be extensive, requiring additional management and time to heal.
- » Tumor size determines the size of the wound, which influences the healing time, along with tumor location; typically, tumors on limbs take longer to heal. While a wound forms at the majority of tumor sites, complete responses have been achieved without the formation of a wound.
- » **Non-responsive tumors may be retreated after day 28.** 75% of MCTs achieve a complete response after one treatment, 87% after one or two treatments. If a second treatment with STELFONTA® (tigilanol tiglate injection) is necessary, concomitant medications should be started with the same mandatory dosing schedule. The protocol for a second treatment is identical to the initial treatment protocol.
- » **STELFONTA's Mechanism of Action:** three inter-related effects, specifically, oncolysis, stimulation of acute inflammatory response and increased permeability of tumor vasculature.

# 1. SAFETY AND WARNINGS

2. INDICATION

3. MECHANISM OF ACTION

4. CASE SELECTION

5. CASE EXAMPLES

6. TREATMENT PROTOCOL - OVERVIEW

7. TREATMENT PROTOCOL - DETAIL

8. POST TREATMENT MONITORING

9. DISEASE FREE INTERVAL

10. NON-RESPONSIVE TUMORS

11. SUMMARY

12. REFERENCES

## **WARNING: SEVERE WOUND FORMATION IN HUMANS; EXTENSIVE WOUND FORMATION, MAST CELL DEGRANULATION, AND DEATH IN DOGS DUE TO MAST CELL DEGRANULATION**

### **HUMAN SAFETY**

- Accidental self-injection of STELFONTA® (tigilanol tiglate injection) may cause severe wound formation. To decrease the risk of accidental self-injection, sedation of the dog may be necessary (see Dosage and Administration, Human Warnings, and Adverse Reactions).

### **DOG SAFETY**

- Always administer a corticosteroid (e.g. prednisone or prednisolone), an H1 receptor blocking agent (e.g. diphenhydramine), and an H2 receptor blocking agent (e.g. famotidine) when treating with STELFONTA to decrease the potential for severe systemic adverse reactions, including death, from mast cell degranulation (see Contraindications and Dosage and Administration).
- Do not inject STELFONTA into subcutaneous mast cell tumors located above the elbow or hock (e.g. on the body, head, or neck). This may result in accumulation of necrotic debris in the subcutaneous space increasing the risk of systemic adverse reactions, including death, from mast cell degranulation (see Contraindications, Warnings and Adverse Events).
- Treatment with STELFONTA has been associated with cellulitis and severe tissue sloughing extending away from the treated site resulting in extensive wounds that require additional treatment and prolonged recovery times.

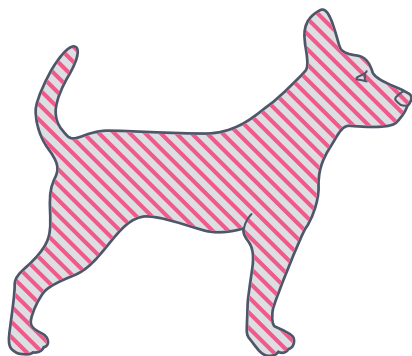
For case consultations, to obtain a product insert or to report adverse events, contact our Virbac Product Safety and Consulting team at 1-800-338-3659.

Visit <https://vet-us.virbac.com/stelfonta> for full prescribing information and additional case reviews.

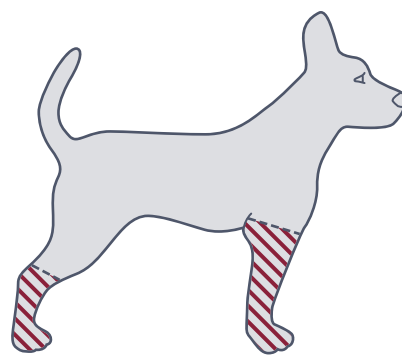
## 2. INDICATION

STELFONTA® (tigilanol tiglate injection) treatment achieves a complete response (CR) in 75% of mast cell tumors after a single injection; 87% CR after one or two treatments.

STELFONTA is a novel epoxytigilane that has been approved by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the intratumoral treatment of all grades of non-metastatic mast cell tumors, specifically:



**Cutaneous MCTs** located anywhere on the body



**Subcutaneous MCTs** located at or below the elbow and hock

<b>Maximum treatable tumor volume</b>	= 10 cm <sup>3</sup>
<b>Maximum total dose of STELFONTA per dog</b>	= either 0.25 mL/kg of body weight or 5 mL, whichever is lower. <b>DO NOT</b> treat if the required dose exceeds 5 mL or 0.25 mL/kg.

STELFONTA should not be injected into *subcutaneous* mast cell tumors located above the elbow or hock (e.g., on the body, head, or neck) as necrotic debris from the injected tumor may accumulate in the subcutaneous space, increasing the risk of systemic adverse reactions, including death, from mast cell degranulation.

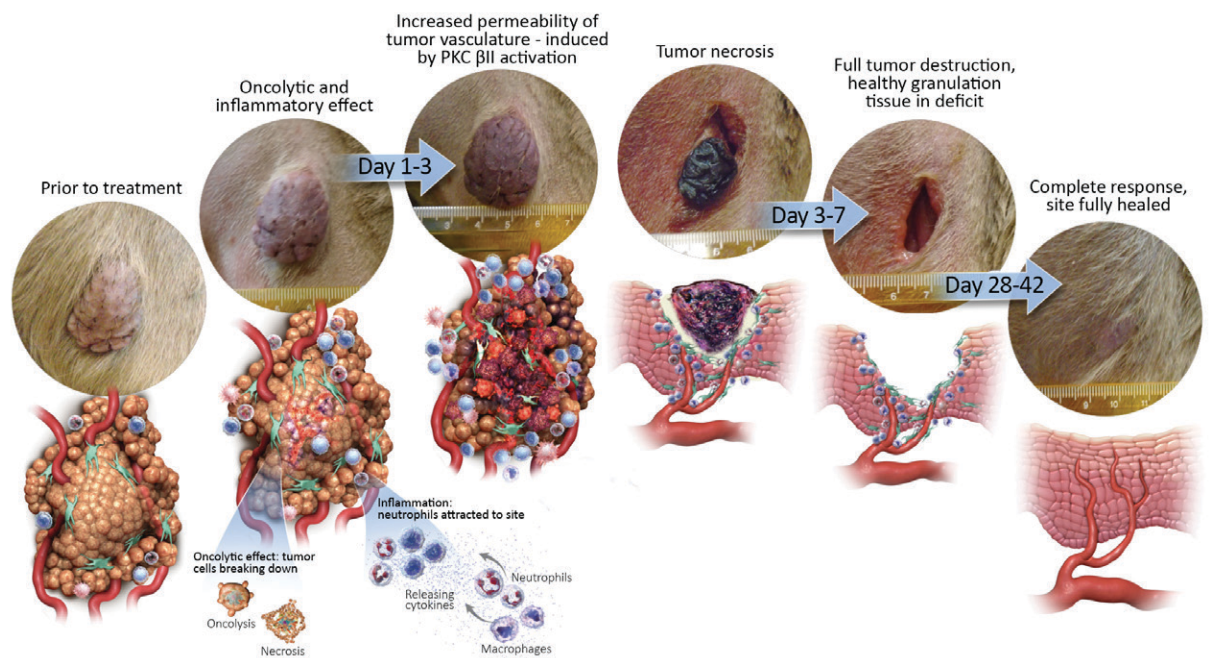
### 3. MECHANISM OF ACTION

STELFONTA® (tigilanol tiglate injection) destroys tumors via three inter-related effects:<sup>1</sup>

- Oncolysis of tumor cells** that are in direct contact with STELFONTA. This occurs within the first hours following treatment and results from disruption of mitochondrial functioning and tumor cell membranes.
- Stimulation of an acute inflammatory response** with swelling and erythema extending to the tumor margins and immediate surroundings:
  - » Restricting blood and oxygen supply to the tumor (causing localized hypoxia).
  - » Recruiting and activating innate immune cells (principally neutrophils and macrophages), which then target the tumor mass and release reactive oxygen species, proteases, and cytokines that function in an antimicrobial role. This acute inflammatory response generally resolves within 48 to 96 hours.
- Increased permeability of tumor vasculature** leading to tumor vascular destruction due to activation of the protein kinase C  $\beta$ -II isoform.

The resulting outcome is tumor destruction with a deficit or wound remaining where the tumor was located. Complete healing of the resulting wound following tumor destruction by STELFONTA is typically within 4-6 weeks, via second intention.<sup>1,3</sup>

Cellulitis and severe tissue sloughing extending away from the treated site resulting in extensive wounds requiring additional treatment and prolonged recovery times is possible.



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This targeted mode of action is clinically displayed in the following case. An 11-year-old Jack Russell Terrier was treated for a 0.5 cm<sup>3</sup> subcutaneous MCT located on the medial aspect of the elbow. Within the first 24 hours there was early signs of bruising, swelling, and heat. Tumor necrosis was evident by Day 7, with a healthy granulation tissue bed. A complete tumor response and wound healing by Day 28 following treatment.

**Case ID: Paupette**  
11 years, 8 months  
Jack Russell Terrier


**Case Summary:** Spayed female Jack Russell Terrier. Previously had a MCT from a different location removed surgically.

**Treatment:**

Weight	6.4kg
Tumor vol.	0.5cm <sup>3</sup>
Location	Elbow
Doses received	1


**Complete response achieved**

**Day 0**




• Subcutaneous MCT on medial left elbow

**Day 1**




• Bruising, swelling, pain and heat

**Day 7**



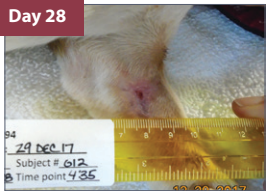
• Starting to granulate  
• Necrotic tissue present  
• Serous discharge

**Day 14**




• Wound granulation tissue and wound contracture

**Day 28**



• Small scab at the treatment site

**Day 42**



• Scar at treated site

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## 4. CASE SELECTION CONSIDERATIONS

STELFONTA® (tigilanol tiglate injection) may not be suitable for every patient or every mast cell tumor. When determining whether STELFONTA is a suitable treatment option, the following factors should be considered relating to the tumor, patient and pet owner.

### Tumor considerations for case selection

- **Location:**
  - » **Functional structures and mucocutaneous junctions:** destruction of a tumor located in or near, functional structures (e.g., eyelid, muzzle or vulva) may lead to compromise of these structures, potentially leading to functional or cosmetic changes. Consider the level of gross and microscopic extensions of the tumor, particularly for subcutaneous tumors.
  - » **Distal location:** tumors located on extremities e.g., lower limb or tail can have increased edema due to gravity, reduced circulation, and lymphatic drainage.
  - » **Limited subcutaneous tissue:** exposure of bones and tendons may occur where subcutaneous tissue is limited, such as the head and distal limbs.
  - » **Sensitivity:** highly sensitive locations such as phalanges, face, and vulva/prepuce may require sedation to ensure safe administration, and ensure the full dose is administered.
  - » **Subcutaneous depth:** as the tumor requires an exit point close to the skin's surface to allow the expulsion of necrotic matter, subcutaneous tumors above the hock or elbow are not suitable for treatment.<sup>1</sup>
- **Ulceration:** leakage of the drug from the surface could occur, decreasing the dose retained within the tumor and potentially reducing efficacy and increasing the risk of drug exposure to skin.
- **Tumor volume:** the treated tumor needs to be within approved guidelines for both safety and efficacy; the maximum treatable tumor volume is  $\approx 10 \text{ cm}^3$ . Ensure the dose does not exceed 5 mL or 0.25 mL/kg and is not less than 0.1 mL.
- **Stage:** STELFONTA is an intratumoral injection and is not indicated for patients with metastatic disease.

Note: As STELFONTA treatment leads to hemorrhagic necrosis of the tumor, grading the tumor *after* treatment is not possible. Cytological grading, using samples from a fine needle aspirate (FNA), is recommended prior to treatment to assist with staging decisions and treatment expectations.<sup>4</sup>

The surface of the tumor must be intact to reduce the risk of drug leakage; consider delaying treatment to allow for any puncture wounds to heal as in the case of a biopsy.

### Patient considerations for case selection

- **Concurrent medications:** potential interactions with mandatory concomitant medications, or interference with immune function (e.g., immunosuppressants).
- **Concurrent disease:** potential contraindications with required concomitant medications (e.g. corticosteroid use may be contraindicated in patients with diabetes or pancreatitis).

- **Patient temperament:** aggressive or highly anxious or active dogs may require sedation to administer safely.

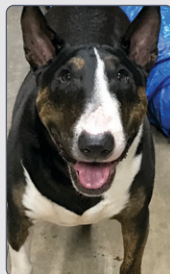
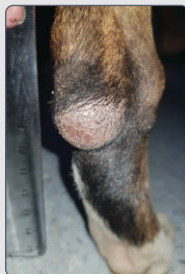
The safe use of STELFONTA® (tigilanol tiglate injection) has not been evaluated in dogs with concurrent diseases, or those that are pregnant, lactating, or intended for breeding.

## Owner considerations for case selection

- **Ability to administer** the full course of concomitant medications that are essential to reducing the risk of potentially severe adverse events, including death, from mast cell degranulation ([see section 7](#)).
- **Comfort with the process:** Explaining the potential responses to the pet owners can help prepare them for tumor necrosis and healing of the tissue deficit.



This **8-year-old Pug** was diagnosed with a 0.1 cm<sup>3</sup> cutaneous mast cell tumor on his muzzle. Due to the inherent risk anesthesia poses for brachycephalic breeds, and his concurrent severe upper airway disease, his owner wanted to avoid anesthesia. Additionally, they expressed concern about the cosmetic impact from surgery. The treating clinician administered STELFONTA and the tumor achieved complete response by Day 28.

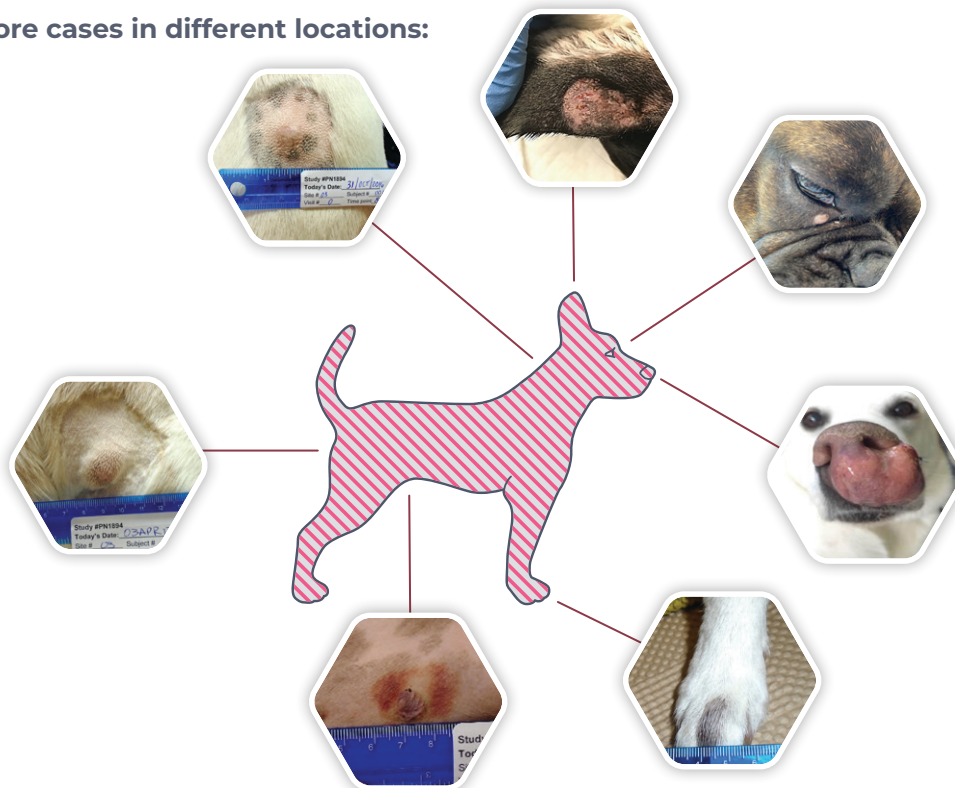


This **6-year-old Bull Terrier** was diagnosed with a 3.6 cm<sup>3</sup> cutaneous MCT on the hock. He had a history of seizures and the owners were very concerned about him undergoing general anesthesia. Additionally, surgical removal of the tumor with adequate margins would have been challenging. The treating veterinarian administered STELFONTA and the tumor achieved a complete response at Day 28.

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# 5. CASE EXAMPLES

Explore cases in different locations:



**Case ID: Biggie**  
**6 years**  
**French Bulldog**



**Case Summary:**

Dog with small, low grade MCT under lower eyelid; previous veterinarian treated with corticosteroids but no response, increased in size.



**Treatment:**

Weight 8.6kg  
 Tumor vol. 1cm<sup>3</sup>  
 Location Face  
 Doses received 1



**Complete response achieved**

Day 0



- Cutaneous MCT near medial canthus of the right eye

Day 1



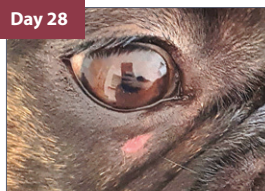
- Swelling at site

Day 7



- Necrotic material present

Day 28



- Complete wound healing
- Complete tumor response

Day 42



- No tumor recurrence
- Minimal scarring present at site



**Case ID: Ava**  
11 years, 8 months  
Parson Russell Terrier



**Case Summary:**

Senior female dog with a moderate sized initial wound (2.2 x 1.7cm) on Day 7.

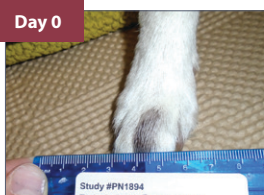


**Treatment:**

Weight 10.7kg  
Tumor vol. 1.1cm<sup>3</sup>  
Location Metacarpus  
Doses received 1



**Complete response achieved**



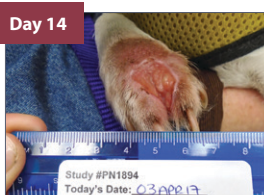
- Round cutaneous mass on right front foot between toes



- Marked swelling on right front foot



- Granulating wound present
- Maximum wound size 3.1cm<sup>2</sup>



- Wound present (2.9 X 1.5cm) contracture



- Small, nearly healed wound (0.7 X 0.1cm)
- Complete tumor response



- Wound resolution
- Complete tumor response



**Case ID: Puddles**  
10 years  
Small mixed breed



**Case Summary:**

High grade MCT with enlarged lymph node and hypothyroidism diagnosed at screening.



**Treatment:**

Weight 9.8kg  
Tumor vol. 3.1cm<sup>3</sup>  
Location Metacarpus  
Doses received 1 (initially control group)



**Complete response achieved**



- Cutaneous MCT on left metacarpus



- Forelimb is swollen and painful



- Wound size is 186.4cm<sup>2</sup>



- Wound size 122.6cm<sup>2</sup>



- Wound size is 10.9cm<sup>2</sup>



- Wound size 3.7cm<sup>2</sup>



Case ID: Zuma  
7 years  
Labrador



**Case Summary:** Adult female dog with cutaneous MCT on nasal planum.



**Treatment:**

Weight 28.7kg  
Tumor vol. 3.5cm<sup>3</sup>  
Location Nasal planum  
Doses received 1



**Complete response achieved**



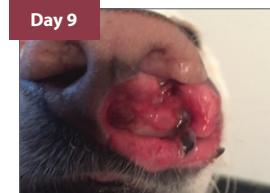
Day 0

- Cutaneous MCT on nasal planum



Day 5

- Necrotic material present



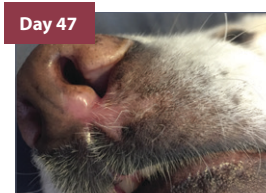
Day 9

- Healthy granulation tissue



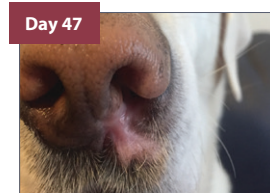
Day 16

- Wound contraction



Day 47

- Full wound healing



Day 47

- Full wound healing



Case ID: Bart  
8 years, 3 months  
Beagle



**Case Summary:** Senior male dog with hypertriglyceridemia and a large initial wound (4.1 x 3.2 cm) on Day 7.



**Treatment:**

Weight 17.2kg  
Tumor vol. 3.8cm<sup>3</sup>  
Location Hip  
Doses received 1



**Complete response achieved**



Day 0

- Cutaneous MCT on the right caudal high, thigh region



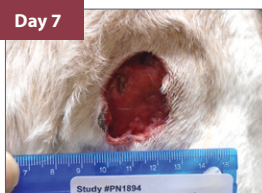
Day 1

- Bruising, swelling, pain and heat



Day 4

- Bruising, swelling, pain and heat
- Necrotic material present
- Serous discharge



Day 7

- Granulating wound
- Maximum wound size 10.3cm<sup>2</sup>
- Serous exudate



Day 28

- Complete tumor response
- Complete wound healing



Day 42

- No tumor recurrence minimum 24 months post treatment



Case ID: Benji  
12 years, 5 months  
Boxer



**Case Summary:** Senior female dog, overweight, fleas, gingival hyperplasia, dental disease.



**Treatment:**

Weight 27.5kg  
Tumor vol. 5.3cm<sup>3</sup>  
Location Cranial Dorsum  
Doses received 1



**Complete response achieved**



Day 0

- Cutaneous MCT in the dorsal intrascapular space



Day 1

- tumor site has a bruised surface



Day 7

- Non-pitting edema
- Hemerosous exudate



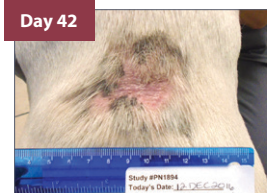
Day 14

- Wound present
- Seropurulent discharge



Day 28

- Complete tumor response
- Scab with thickened skin surrounding area
- FNA negative



Day 42

- Flat, smooth scar tissue remains
- No tumor recurrence minimum 24 months



Case ID: Babou  
13 years  
French Bulldog



**Case Summary:** Senior dog with a large cutaneous MCT at the base of the ear.



**Treatment:**

Weight 10.8kg  
Tumor vol. 3.12cm<sup>3</sup>  
Location Ear  
Doses received 1



**Complete response achieved**



Day 0

- Cutaneous MCT at the base of the ear



Day 1

- Bruising and swelling present at the site



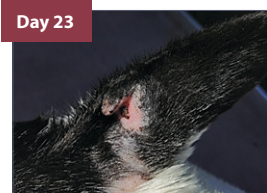
Day 4

- tumor necrosis



Day 7

- Granulating wound



Day 23

- Complete tumor response



Day 30

- Complete wound healing



**Case ID: Pattie**  
7 years, 9 months  
Basset Hound



**Case Summary:** Senior dog with cutaneous MCT on ventral abdomen.

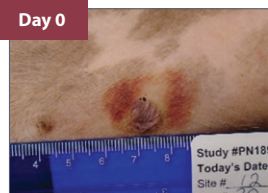


**Treatment:**

Weight 28.8kg  
Tumor vol. 0.3cm<sup>3</sup>  
Location Abdomen  
Doses received 1  
(initially Control Group)



**Complete response achieved**



- Bruising around the MCT before treatment



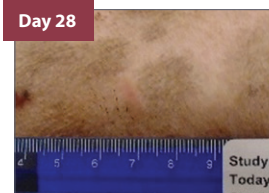
- Bruising and swelling.
- Enlargement of left inguinal lymph node



- Necrosis of tumor.
- Erythema in surrounding skin



- Wound formed (1.5 X 1.0cm)






- Complete wound resolution
- Complete tumor response



- Tumor free at site minimum 12 months post-treatment



## 6. TREATMENT PROTOCOL – OVERVIEW

	Key points	Warnings & safety considerations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduction of risk &amp; severity of possible degranulation reactions.</li> <li>Pre-emptive management of localized inflammation and pain.</li> <li>Provide the <a href="#">Medication Tracker</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concomitant medications (corticosteroid, H1 and H2 blockers) are essential to decrease the potential for severe systemic adverse reactions, including death, from mast cell degranulation.</li> <li>Pre-emptive pain management.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Calculating the dose</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dosing is based on tumor volume.</li> <li><b>Volume</b> is calculated by multiplying tumor length, width and height (in cms), <b>X 1/2</b> (modified ellipsoid).</li> <li><b>Dose</b> (mL) = Tumor volume <b>X 0.5</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Treatment administration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enter via single injection point.</li> <li>Deliver as evenly as possible throughout the tumor using a fanning technique.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximum treatable tumor volume = 10 cm<sup>3</sup>.</li> <li>Maximum total dose/dog = 5 mL or 0.25 mL/kg, whichever is lower.</li> <li>If the calculated dose is &lt;0.1 mL, administer 0.1 mL.</li> <li>Wear gloves, eye protection and lab coat/gown.</li> <li>Take care to avoid accidental self-injection.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Inflammatory response</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Within 2 hours post-treatment, acute inflammation with swelling and redness appears around the tumor and nearby tissues.<sup>1-3</sup></li> </ul> <p><b>Tumor necrosis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tumor necrosis begins within 4 hours of treatment and complete necrosis is typically evident within 4-7 days.</li> <li>A wound is created where the tumor once was.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The most common adverse reactions from STELFONTA® (tigilanol tiglate injection) treatment (reported in the field effectiveness study) included wound formation, injection site pain and lameness in the treated limb. <a href="#">See product insert on page 30</a> for further information on adverse events and frequency.</li> </ul>

- 1. SAFETY AND WARNINGS
- 2. INDICATION
- 3. MECHANISM OF ACTION
- 4. CASE SELECTION
- 5. CASE EXAMPLES
- 6. TREATMENT PROTOCOL - OVERVIEW
- 7. TREATMENT PROTOCOL - DETAIL
- 8. POST TREATMENT MONITORING
- 9. DISEASE FREE INTERVAL
- 10. NON-RESPONSIVE TUMORS
- 11. SUMMARY
- 12. REFERENCES

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▣ Most wounds are left unbandaged, to heal via second intention.</li> <li>▣ Tumor sites heal with minimal intervention, typically within 4-6 weeks of tumor destruction.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▣ Treatment with STELFONTA® (tigilanol tiglate injection) has been associated with cellulitis and severe tissue sloughing, resulting in extensive wounds and prolonged recovery time.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Post treatment care</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▣ Consider availability of treating clinician for rechecks when selecting treatment day.</li> <li>▣ Days 1-7, owner to monitor for signs of degranulation and ensure concomitant medications and analgesics are administered.</li> <li>▣ Day 7, assess wound: minimal intervention where possible.</li> <li>▣ At Days 28-42, assess tumor response and determine if further treatment is necessary.</li> </ul> <p><b>Non-responsive tumors</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▣ STELFONTA treatment achieves complete response in 75% of MCTs after a single injection.</li> <li>▣ 87% of dogs achieved complete response after one or two treatments.<sup>1,3</sup></li> <li>▣ Wait until at least 28 days after treatment to assess response as residual mast cells may be present at the site for up to 4-6 weeks.</li> </ul>	

## 7. TREATMENT PROTOCOL – DETAIL

There are four stages to treating MCTs with STELFONTA® (tigilanol tiglate injection). STELFONTA's mechanism of action initiates healing via second intention requiring little, if any, intervention in most cases. Some wounds, however, may be more extensive requiring additional management and healing time.

### STAGE 1: Concomitant medications

Essential medications are a critical aspect of the protocol to reduce the potential for severe systemic adverse reactions, including death, from mast cell degranulation. Always administer the following mandatory medications:

- ▣ **Corticosteroids** (oral prednisone or prednisolone) starting 2 days prior to STELFONTA treatment at 0.5 mg/kg every 12 hours for 7 days, then 0.5 mg/kg every 24 hours for 3 days (10 days total).
- ▣ **H1 receptor blocking agent** (oral diphenhydramine) starting on STELFONTA treatment day at 2 mg/kg every 12 hours for at total of 8 days.
- ▣ **H2 receptor blocking agent** (oral famotidine) starting on STELFONTA treatment day at 0.5 mg/kg every 12 hours for a total of 8 days.



This 12-year-old mixed-breed had a cutaneous mast cell tumor on the lumbar spine. He received the pre-treatment concomitant medications as instructed. After receiving his injection, upon returning home, he wasn't interested in his food and the owner was unable to administer his medication. The following day, the dog was very lethargic and inappetent, and was subsequently hospitalized and provided with supportive care to treat a degranulation reaction. This patient had a successful outcome due to the vigilance of the owner. Failure to recognize clinical signs consistent with degranulation and provide appropriate treatment can lead to serious sequelae including death.

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### Minimizing Discomfort Associated with STELFONTA® Injection

To reduce patient discomfort during and after STELFONTA administration, clinicians should consider both pre-emptive and post-injection strategies.

#### Pre-emptive Measures:

Administer pain relief and, if appropriate, sedation for injection.

Factors influencing injection-site discomfort include:

- ▣ Injection site sensitivity (e.g., head, vulva, distal limb and phalanges).
- ▣ STELFONTA temperature – ambient temperature may reduce discomfort. Consider letting the vial reach room temperature just prior to injection.
- ▣ Patient-specific factors such as pain sensitivity and temperament.

- Tumor size relative to patient size.
- Increased intratumoral pressure and skin tension from 50% vol/volume dosing.

### Post-Injection Pain Management:

STELFONTA induces an acute local inflammatory response (swelling, bruising, erythema), followed by tumor necrosis. Discomfort typically peaks within the first few days and subsides as inflammation resolves. Discomfort typically diminishes as the inflammatory reaction subsides and the tumor separates from the surrounding tissue.

- Consider multimodal analgesia. During pivotal studies:
- 69% of patients received pain medication within 7 days post-treatment.
- Median duration was 6 days, with an average of 9 days.
- Common analgesics included tramadol, gabapentin, and buprenorphine.
- Concomitant use of prednisolone/prednisone and H1/H2 antagonists may reduce degranulation-related swelling and pain.
- Encourage gentle movement to reduce swelling and discomfort.

## STAGE 2: STELFONTA injection

### Checklist for treatment day

- Confirm with pet owner the patient has received the pre-treatment concomitant medications, commencing with corticosteroids at least 2 days before STELFONTA injection, and H1 and H2 blocking agents?
- Is the tumor surface intact and any previous biopsy site has healed (minimum 14 days)?
- Does the pet owner understand what to expect, how to administer the concomitant medications and how/when to follow up?
- Clip hair from around the tumor particularly in thick haired locations to enable accurate tumor measurement. This will also minimize the accumulation of necrotic material that can lead to persistence of odor. Take care to avoid excessive manipulation of the tumor.
- Wear personal protective equipment.
- Consider whether sedation of the dog may be necessary to ease administration as well as avoid accidental self-injection of STELFONTA that may cause severe wound formation.

Many veterinarians chose to administer STELFONTA earlier in the week, allowing the pet owner to more easily contact them to address any concerns post treatment during regular working hours.

## Calculate the dose – on treatment day

STELFONTA® (tigilanol tiglate injection) is administered as an intratumoral injection at a dose of 0.5 mL per cm<sup>3</sup> of tumor volume.

1. **Calculate tumor volume using modified ellipsoid formula:** Use calipers to measure the length, width, and height of the tumor to determine the tumor volume in cm<sup>3</sup>:

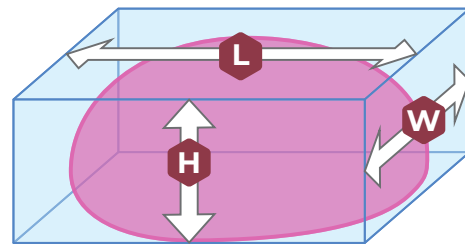
- ▣ [length (cm) x width (cm) x height (cm)] x 1/2
- ▣ Confirm the tumor volume does not exceed 10 cm<sup>3</sup>

2. **Weigh dog** to confirm body weight in kilograms.

3. **Calculate the dose** (mL) of STELFONTA to inject:  
Tumor volume x **0.5 mL**

- ▣ Ensure the maximum total dose is not more than 5 mL.
- ▣ Ensure the required dose is within the mL/kg guidelines of 0.25 mL/kg. Do not underdose the tumor (caution treating big tumors in small dogs).

### Modified ellipsoid calculation



$$L \times W \times H \times \frac{1}{2}$$

### Note the following restrictions:

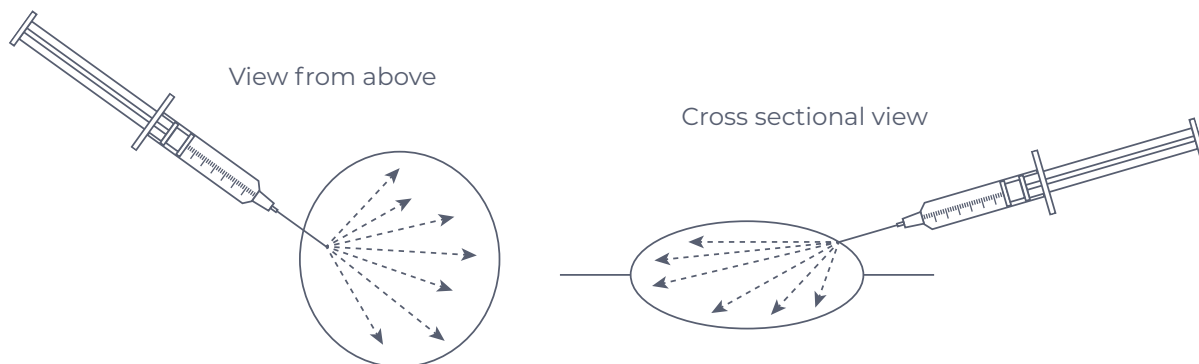
- ▣ Maximum treatable tumor volume is 10cm<sup>3</sup>;
- ▣ Maximum total dose per dog is 5 mls or 0.25 mL/kg bodyweight of Stelfonta, whichever is lower;
- ▣ DO NOT TREAT if the required dose exceeds 5 mL or 0.25 mL/kg;
- ▣ Minimum tumor dose is 0.1 mL. If the dose is <0.1 mL, administer 0.1 mL.

Access the dose calculator: [How to calculate STELFONTA dose \(tigilanol tiglate\)](#)



## Injecting STELFONTA

1. **Draw the required dose** into a Luer-lock syringe with a 23-gauge needle.
2. **Entering the tumor from a single injection point**, draw the syringe plunger back slightly to ensure STELFONTA is not injected into a blood vessel. Use a fanning motion to disperse STELFONTA evenly throughout the tumor. If the tumor protrudes above the surface of the skin, insert the needle at approximately 45°. Avoid injecting into the margins, beyond the periphery, or deep to the tumor.



3. **Remove the needle** after pausing to allow tissue dispersion once the total dose of STELFONTA® (tigilanol tiglate injection) has been administered. **Apply light pressure** for 30 seconds over the needle exit hole using a gloved finger. If leakage occurs, **rinse the injection site** with saline to wash STELFONTA from the skin surface. Do not re-administer if leakage occurs. To minimize the risk of accidental self-injection, **dispose of the uncapped needle and syringe** as appropriate for routine medical waste.
4. **Reiterate expectations to the pet owner** regarding the wound, signs of degranulation and importance of compliance for essential concomitant medications.

### STAGE 3: Tumor destruction

- ▣ **Minutes:** STELFONTA starts to work within minutes following the injection, evidenced by early signs of erythema, blanching, and swelling.
- ▣ **Hours:** Acute inflammatory response, and associated bruising, swelling, heat, and pain is typically observed. While localized bruising and swelling is an expected response, extensive wounds or severe systemic reactions should receive immediate veterinary attention. Remind pet owners when and how to contact their veterinarian with concerns.
- ▣ **Days:** Necrotic destruction of the tumor is typically seen within 4-7 days, but may take longer and is characterized by blackening, shrinkage and softening of the tumor. Serosanguinous discharge may be observed, normally in small amounts from the wound.
- ▣ **Site care:** The treated tumor site is typically left uncovered. If there is concern that there is excessive licking or rubbing of the site causing trauma, an Elizabethan collar or dry loose gauze bandage may be necessary. In the pivotal trial, two (2%) patients wore an Elizabethan collar, and one (1%) patient was bandaged following treatment.

Do not allow the dog to lick the tumor for the first few days after treatment and discourage excessive licking for the remainder of the healing period.

**Where possible leave the site unbandaged** to allow:

- » Drainage and resolution of edema from the treatment site;
- » Ambient oxygen to aid site healing;
- » Wound exudate and necrotic debris to slough away;

Bandaging is seldom required, but if bandaging is deemed necessary, the bandage should be kept light and non-restrictive to allow for the expected local edema to occur.

- ▣ **Sloughing:** The necrotic tumor mass will fall away forming a wound with a pocket or crater-like defect. Surgical debridement is not usually necessary; it was not required in the clinical trials and may interfere with the wound healing benefits of STELFONTA. Only remove necrotic tissue that is loosely attached and can be easily removed without resistance.<sup>5</sup>

**Reassure pet owners the wound is part of the treatment process** and reiterate that while not necessary, the wound can be gently flushed with water when there is excessive discharge, or it is malodorous.

Occasionally, due to tumor location, the underlying tissues including bones and tendons may be exposed but in most cases granulation tissue covers these tissues quickly without deleterious effect of these structures. It is suggested the owner review photos of what to expect at <https://stelfonta.com/mast-cell-tumor-pictures>.

## STAGE 4: Tumor site healing

- Tumor necrosis and subsequent wound formation are a sign of efficacy and typically occur 3-7 days post injection.<sup>1,3,5,6,7,8</sup>
- At Day 7, in the field study, maximal wound size was observed in 89% of cases receiving a single treatment; the majority of tumor sites are fully healed within 4-6 weeks.
- After the first few days, dogs can access the site to clean the wound. The following case shows an atypical progression, due to an inaccessible location on the dog's ear.

**Case:** This 6-year-old Chihuahua mix dog was treated for a 1.1 cm<sup>3</sup> cutaneous mast cell tumor at the dorsal base of the pinna. Following initial bruising, swelling, and necrosis in the first 1-7 days, the necrotic material remained attached to the wound surface, but by Day 14 could be easily detached so was removed at this point. Do not debride a STELFONTA® (tigilanol tiglate injection) wound unless loosely attached.

Full case [available here](#).



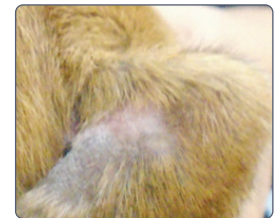
Day 7



Day 14



Day 28



Day 43, fully healed

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Larger wounds may form in some cases. Analysis from patients treated with STELFONTA in the pivotal trial, shows that tumor size determines the size of the wound, which influences the healing time, along with tumor location; typically, tumors on limbs take longer to heal.<sup>3,5</sup> There is a positive correlation between tumor volume and wound surface area.

- The extent of microscopic disease can be difficult to determine, which may lead to larger than expected wounds that can, in turn, require additional management and extended healing time.
- Local lymph node enlargement and associated secondary lymphatic obstruction (inflammation or metastasis) may impede drainage of edema fluid from the treatment site and surrounding tissue leading to larger wound formation.
- Patients compromised with concurrent disease may form larger wounds and experience slower healing (e.g., hypothyroidism and other neoplastic conditions).<sup>5</sup> The two dogs in the pivotal trial that formed the largest wounds had concurrent disease (hypothyroidism and bone neoplasia).
- Wounds on the lower limbs may heal more slowly than those on the body/trunk and upper limbs as wound closure on the limbs relies predominantly on re-epithelialization instead of contraction for wound closure. Amputation has been reported in some cases.

**Case:** This 7-year-old Boxer presented with a 1.25 cm<sup>3</sup> subcutaneous MCT located at the right hock. There was a granulating wound bed with tendon exposure at Day 7, but the dog was comfortable and not interfering with the site. Full wound closure was noted at a visit on Day 49.

### Subcutaneous Mast Cell Tumor 7 years, 4 months Boxer



#### Treatment:

Weight 28kg  
Tumor vol. 1.25cm<sup>3</sup>  
Calculated dose 0.7mL



#### Complete response achieved



**Case Summary:** Boxer with subcutaneous MCT just distal to the medial hock on the right hind limb.

Day 2



- Subcutaneous mass distal hock

Day 3



- Erythema and bruising extended proximal and distal to hock
- Moderate malodorous exudate
- Mild discomfort

Day 7



- Granulating deficit after tumor separation
- Tendon visible
- Dog comfortable and not interfering with site

Day 28



- Wound contracture
- Small nodule of tissue present in cranio-dorsal aspect - no FNA or re-treatment at this time

Day 49



- Full wound closure
- Tissue nodule self-resolved with no treatment

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## 8. POST TREATMENT MONITORING

Recheck appointments are recommended to monitor treatment progression following STELFONTA® (tigilanol tiglate injection).

Scheduling follow-ups at the suggested intervals below can assist the treating clinician in evaluating the response and guiding ongoing patient care.

- ▣ **Days 1-7**, ensure the pet owner monitors for signs of degranulation and potential pain and remind them of the importance of concomitant medications. Encourage movement at home to minimize swelling and pain. Some clinicians have owners send pictures during this phase.
- ▣ **Day 7**, assess the size of the wound, reinforce with the owner the importance of minimal intervention, and address any concerns.
- ▣ **Days 28-42**, assess the tumor response and determine if further treatments are necessary.

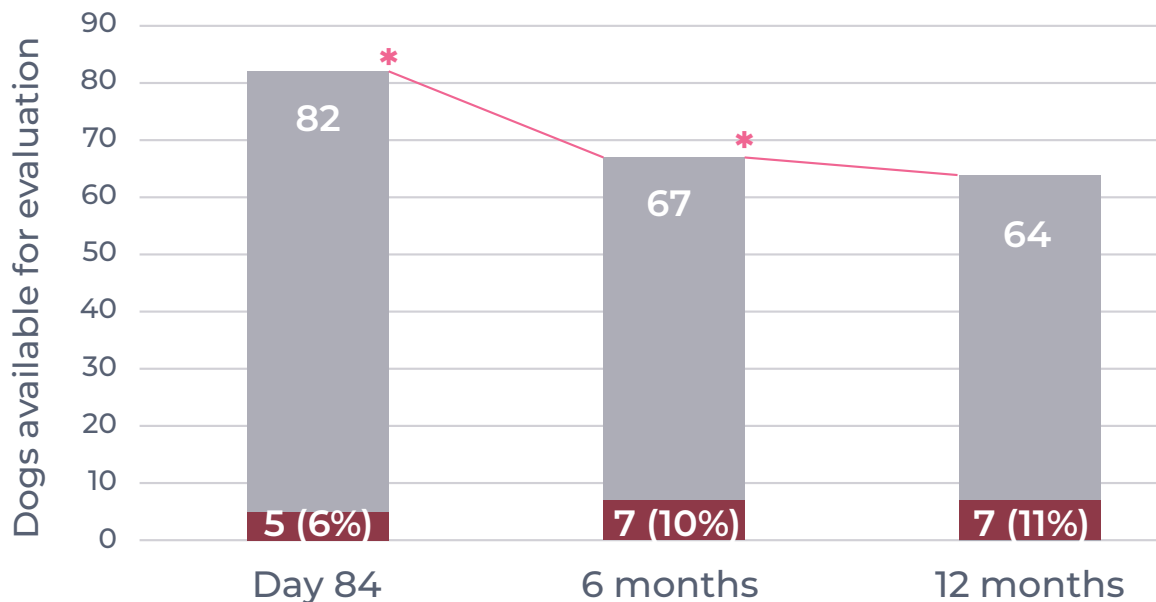
Some patients may need additional rechecks within or outside of these times. If the following signs are seen it is recommended to evaluate the patient as soon as possible:

- ▣ Excessive pain or lameness
- ▣ Excessive bruising or swelling
- ▣ Lethargy or inappetence
- ▣ Vomiting or diarrhea
- ▣ Difficulty breathing
- ▣ Extensive wound formation
- ▣ Recumbency.

## 9. DISEASE FREE INTERVAL

- Local recurrence of MCTs at the treatment site occurred in 7 dogs, all within the first 6 months of treatment with the majority (5/7, 71%) in the first 3 months.<sup>9</sup>

### RECURRENCE-FREE INTERVAL, TIGILANOL TIGLATE



■ Cumulative patients with recurrence at treatment site

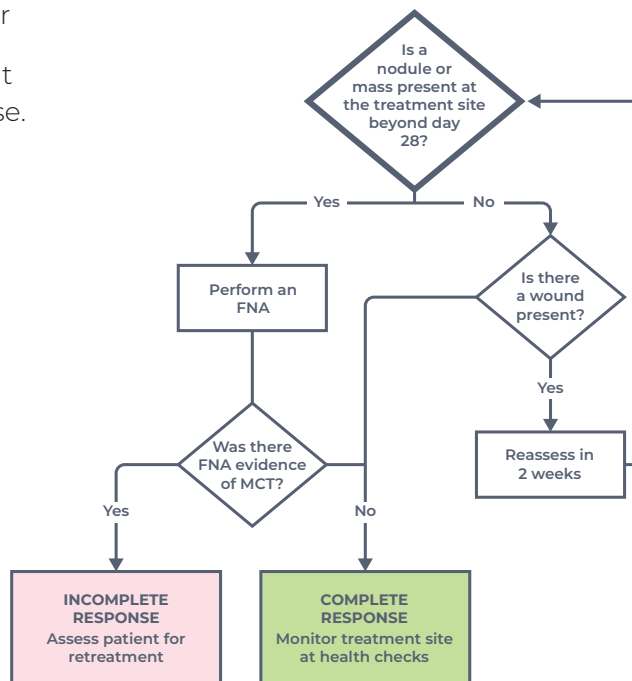
\* Dogs available for evaluation declined due to loss of owner contact or death due to unrelated causes.

## 10. NON-RESPONSIVE TUMORS (MCTS WITH AN INCOMPLETE RESPONSE)

STELFONTA® (tigilanol tiglate injection) treatment resulted in a complete response in 75% of mast cell tumors after a single injection. Furthermore, 87% of dogs achieved complete response after one or two treatments.<sup>3</sup>

If a residual tumor at the treated site is suspected, a fine needle aspirate should be performed at a minimum of 28 days post treatment. It is important to note, that small numbers of mast cells may be present as part of the normal wound healing process. Wait a minimum of 28 days before repeating the STELFONTA treatment to allow for individual differences in treatment response and wound healing and the identification of residual mass for accurate tumor dosing. Prior to any decision to re-treat any tumor that did not achieve complete response, consider and address the possible reasons for lack of initial treatment response:

- ✖ Underdosing due to:
  - » Inaccurate tumor volume or dose calculation
  - » Difficulty fanning the drug throughout the tumor due to tumor density, or patient movement during the injection
  - » Leakage of the drug caused by:
    - Ulceration or multiple injection sites within the tumor
    - Previous, unhealed biopsy sites
    - Pressure from within the tumor
- ✖ Concurrent medications or diseases that may interfere with the immune response.



Click to read the guidelines for the recheck schedule:

<https://stelfonta.com/Stelfonta-Wait-until-28-guide.pdf>

For tumors that did not achieve a complete response following STELFONTA® (tigilanol tiglate injection) additional treatments may be given using the same protocol as the initial treatment.

This 4-year-old Boston Terrier was treated for a 3.8 cm<sup>3</sup> cutaneous mast cell tumor on the right rear paw. At 28 days following the STELFONTA injection, a partial response was recorded. The concurrent medication regime was reinitiated, and the tumor dosed according to the new tumor volume of 0.2 cm<sup>3</sup>. There was a complete response recorded at Day 28 following the second STELFONTA injection.

**Case ID: Macey**  
4 years, 11 months  
Boston Terrier Cross



#### Case Summary:

Complete response following 2 injections.



#### Treatment:

Weight 8.6kg  
Tumor vol. 3.8cm<sup>3</sup>  
Location Metatarsus  
Doses received 2



#### Complete response achieved



- Cutaneous MCT on right rear paw



- Bruising, swelling, pain and necrosis



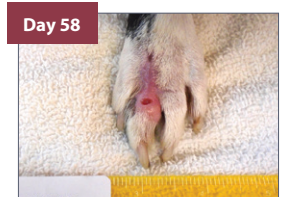
- Tumor sloughing from dorsal aspect of digit 4
- Rear leg swollen and pitting edema from stifle to paw



- Residual tumor at distal aspect of the wound
- Second treatment given (0.1mL tigilanol tiglate)



- Tissue on medial aspect is still mildly thickened



- Tissue remains slightly thickened
- FNA negative for MCT
- Tumor free at day 84

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## 11. SUMMARY

Factors to consider for a successful STELFONTA® (tigilanol tiglate injection) treatment:

- ▣ Use STELFONTA for the treatment of non-metastatic cutaneous MCTs anywhere on the body *and* subcutaneous MCTs only located at or distal to the elbow or hock.
- ▣ Educate pet owners about the treatment process (including wound formation) and ensure they are committed to administer *the full course of concomitant medications* to minimize the potentially fatal risk of degranulation.
- ▣ Before the injection, confirm with the dog owner that they have administered the prednisolone on the morning of treatment and the previous two days.
- ▣ Use the dose calculator located [here](#), to calculate the correct dose for the size of tumor and weight of dog.
- ▣ Ensure the full dose reaches the tumor cells by injecting STELFONTA into a single injection point and distributing the drug in a fanning motion throughout the tumor.
- ▣ Use caution and consider sedation to avoid accidental self-injection and wear appropriate personal protective equipment.
- ▣ Only treat tumors with an intact surface – free of ulceration and unhealed biopsy sites – to minimize STELFONTA leakage.
- ▣ Wait at least 28 days before assessing whether a repeat injection is needed. If possible, avoid intervention of the STELFONTA treatment site, allowing for healing via second intention.
- ▣ Discourage licking for the first few days and avoid trauma from excessive licking until the site heals; typically the treatment site is left uncovered but a loose gauze bandage can be used if necessary.

Dose Calculator



### FURTHER INFORMATION:

#### Pet Owners

- ▣ Photos of treated tumors to show pet owners – <https://stelfonta.com/mast-cell-tumor-pictures/>
- ▣ Email series to guide owners through treatment – <https://stelfonta.com/email-support-program/>
- ▣ Medication tracker – <https://stelfonta.com/Stelfonta-medication-tracker-v1.pdf>

#### Clinicians

- ▣ Dose calculator – <https://stelfonta.com/how-to-calculate-correct-stelfonta-dose>
- ▣ Website for veterinarians – [www.vet-us.virbac.com/stelfonta](http://www.vet-us.virbac.com/stelfonta)
- ▣ Clinical case images – <https://stelfonta.com/clinical-case-images>
- ▣ Recheck schedule, Wait until 28 days – <https://stelfonta.com/Stelfonta-Wait-until-28-guide.pdf>

## 12. REFERENCES

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### CONTACT INFORMATION

For case consultations, to obtain a product insert or to report adverse events, contact our Virbac Product Safety and Consulting team at 1 800 338 3659.

Visit <https://vet-us.virbac.com/stelfonta> for full prescribing information and additional case reviews.

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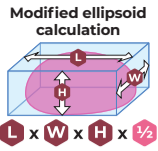


For intratumoral injection in dogs only  
Antineoplastic  
Single use vial



- Determine the Tumor Volume using the modified ellipsoid formula to account for the tumor shape (cube volume x ½) as below:

$$\frac{\text{Length (cm)}}{\text{cm}} \times \frac{\text{Width (cm)}}{\text{cm}} \times \frac{\text{Height (cm)}}{\text{cm}} \times \frac{1}{2} = \text{Tumor Volume (cm}^3\text{)}$$



- Confirm the Tumor Volume does not exceed 10 cm<sup>3</sup>.
- Do not use STELFONTA if Tumor Volume is >10 cm<sup>3</sup>.

**STEP 2. Calculate the mL of STELFONTA to inject:**

$$\frac{\text{Tumor Volume (cm}^3\text{)}}{\text{Dose (0.5 mL/cm}^3\text{)}} = \text{mL of STELFONTA to be injected}$$

- Confirm the dose of STELFONTA does not exceed 0.25 mL/kg body weight and do not use if the calculated dose exceeds this.
- Do not exceed 5 mL per dog, regardless of tumor volume or body weight.
- The minimum dose of STELFONTA is 0.1 mL, regardless of tumor volume or body weight. If the calculated dose is < 0.1 mL, administer 0.1 mL.
- Confirm the calculated dose of STELFONTA using the online dosing calculator at [www.stelfonta.com/calculator](http://www.stelfonta.com/calculator) (or scan the QR code to the right).



**Administration of STELFONTA:**

Sedation may be necessary to safely and accurately administer STELFONTA to decrease the chance of accidental self-injection. Wear gloves, eye protection, and lab coat or gown in the preparation and administration of STELFONTA. Care should be taken to restrict injections to the tumor only. STELFONTA should not be injected into the margins, beyond the periphery, or deep to the tumor.

- Shave the tumor site. Avoid manipulation of the tumor.
- Draw the calculated volume of STELFONTA into a sterile Luer-lock syringe with a 23 gauge needle.
- Identify an appropriate injection point on the edge of the tumor. See Figure 1. Insertion of the needle depends on the tumor's location, form, and appearance. If a tumor protrudes above the surface of the skin, insert the needle at an oblique angle of approximately 45°.
- Insert and embed the needle in the tumor through a single injection site and draw the syringe plunger back slightly to ensure STELFONTA is not injected into a blood vessel. While applying even pressure on the syringe plunger, move the needle back and forth in a fanning manner to inject STELFONTA into the tumor. See Figure 1. The drug should fully perfuse the entire tumor.
- When the total dose of STELFONTA has been administered, pause to allow tissue dispersion before removing the needle from the tumor. Pull back on the syringe plunger to create a small negative pressure before removing the needle to minimize leakage from the injection site.
- After the needle is withdrawn, apply light pressure for 30 seconds over the needle exit hole using a gloved finger. If leakage does occur, rinse injection site with saline to wash STELFONTA from the skin surface. Do not re-administer.
- To minimize risk of accidental self-injection, do not recap the needle. Dispose of the needle and syringe.

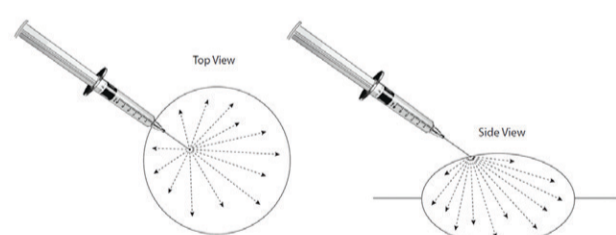


Figure 1: Dispersion of STELFONTA throughout the tumor.

**CONTRAINDICATIONS**

Do not inject STELFONTA into subcutaneous mast cell tumors located above the elbow or hock (e.g. on the body, head, or neck). This may result in accumulation of necrotic debris in the subcutaneous space increasing the risk of systemic adverse reactions, including death, from mast cell degranulation (see **Adverse Reactions**).

**WARNINGS**

**Human Safety Warnings**

**NOT FOR USE IN HUMANS. KEEP THIS AND ALL MEDICATIONS OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.**

Caution is required during treatment to avoid accidental self-injection. Dogs undergoing treatment with STELFONTA should be adequately restrained and sedation used if necessary. Use a Luer-lock syringe to administer STELFONTA. Do not recap the needle. Accidental self-injection may result in local inflammatory reactions, including swelling, redness and severe wound formation. In case of accidental self-injection, immediately rinse the area with water, seek medical advice immediately, and show the package insert to the physician.

Wear personal protective equipment consisting of disposable gloves, protective eye wear, and a lab coat or gown when handling STELFONTA. STELFONTA is an irritant and accidental exposure to skin, eye, or by ingestion should be avoided. In case of dermal or ocular exposure, repeatedly wash the exposed skin or eye with water. If wearing contacts, rinse your eyes first then remove contacts and continue to rinse with water. If symptoms such as local signs of redness and swelling occur, or if there has been ingestion, seek the advice of a physician and show them the package insert.

Limited data is available on the potential teratogenic effects of STELFONTA. Therefore, STELFONTA should not be administered by women who are pregnant or planning to become pregnant.

People with known hypersensitivity to tigilanol tiglate or to any of the excipients should avoid contact with STELFONTA.

**Animal Safety Warnings**

Dogs should be monitored during and for 5-7 days after intra-tumoral treatment with STELFONTA for signs of systemic mast cell degranulation such as vomiting, diarrhea, lethargy, anorexia/hyporexia, altered breathing, hypotension, urticaria, edema at or away from the treated site, or bruising at or away from the treated site. If signs are observed, appropriate treatment should be started immediately.

Always administer the concomitant medications (prednisone or prednisolone, diphenhydramine, and famotidine), as directed in the Dosage and Administration section, with STELFONTA in order to decrease the potential for severe systemic adverse reactions, including death, from mast cell degranulation (see **Adverse Reactions**).

Treatment with STELFONTA causes tumor necrosis which is part of the mechanism of action of the drug. Bruising, heat, pain, and swelling may begin at the site within 2 hours of treatment. By day 7 after treatment, wound formation including full thickness dermal necrosis with exudate, peripheral tissue edema, erythema, skin discoloration, tissue sloughing, and necrotic eschar may occur.

STELFONTA can induce a substantial local inflammatory reaction which may result in severe pain and swelling, bruising, cellulitis, extensive wound formation, and severe tissue sloughing extending away from the treated site. Consider administering analgesic medications prior to, during, and after treatment with STELFONTA in addition to the use of corticosteroids and both H1 and H2 receptor blocking agents.

Amputation of an extremity has been reported in some cases (see **Post-Approval Experience**).

Some dogs require wound care and pain management for an extended period.

Do not inject STELFONTA into normal subcutaneous tissue or adjacent tissues (e.g., beyond tumor margins) because severe edema, erythema, and necrosis of the injected tissue may occur.

**PRECAUTIONS**

STELFONTA is not intended for the treatment of metastatic mast cell tumors.

The safe and effective use of STELFONTA has not been evaluated in dogs with a mast cell tumor volume >10 cm<sup>3</sup>.

Use STELFONTA with caution in tumors located within mucocutaneous regions (e.g., eyelids, vulva, prepuce, and anus) as tumor necrosis could cause a change in morphology of the mucocutaneous region resulting in loss of functional integrity.

Use STELFONTA with caution in mast cell tumors with significant ulceration as leakage of the drug from the ulcerated area may occur following treatment potentially reducing effectiveness.

Some discharge from the site following treatment is expected. Wear disposable gloves to clean the site with warm water as necessary.

After treatment with STELFONTA, dogs may require additional care of the treated site to aid in the healing process, especially if there is extensive wound formation (see **Animal Safety Warnings and Post-Approval Experience**).

Tongue lesions have been reported (see **Post-Approval Experience**). Do not allow the dog to lick the site for the first few days after treatment. Discourage excessive licking for the remainder of the healing period.

An Elizabethan collar or a non-constricting dry gauze bandage may be needed to prevent the dog from self-traumatizing the treated site.

After treatment with STELFONTA, separation from other household animals may be necessary to prevent grooming and trauma to the treated site.

STELFONTA has not been evaluated in dogs with signs of systemic disease due to the mast cell tumor(s).

The safe and effective use of STELFONTA has not been evaluated for simultaneous treatment of more than one mast cell tumor.

The safe use of STELFONTA has not been evaluated in dogs with concurrent diseases that may result in delayed wound healing.

The safe use of STELFONTA under conditions of use has not been evaluated in dogs younger than 3.5 years old.

The safe use of STELFONTA has not been evaluated in dogs that are pregnant, lactating, or intended for breeding.

**ADVERSE REACTIONS**

**Human Exposure**

There was one human exposure during the field study where the veterinarian had a needle stick injury to the thumb at completion of tumor treatment and was injected with an unknown amount of STELFONTA. The incident resulted in pain and necrosis of the center of the thumb at the point of needle stick. The wound healed over a period of three months. See Pictures 1 and 2 below.

A separate needle stick injury was reported with a maximum potential dose of 0.1 mL tigilanol tiglate into the distal extremity of the left index finger, resulting in a localized burning sensation, local inflammation, bruising, muscular pain up the left arm, and localized tissue necrosis. Muscular pain resolved in the first 12-24 hours and the wound healed in 8 weeks. There have been other needle stick injuries reported, with at least one injection into a thumb, with minimal (stinging, pain, and swelling) to no adverse events associated with these accidental self-injections.

**Picture 1.** Thirteen days after self-injection



**Picture 2.** Seventy-four days after self-injection



**Field Study**

In a well-controlled, multi-center, randomized, double-masked field study evaluating the effectiveness and safety of STELFONTA for the treatment of cutaneous and subcutaneous mast cell tumors in dogs, 117 dogs treated with STELFONTA and 42 dogs receiving sham treatment (untreated control) were evaluated for safety. Eighty-one dogs were treated with STELFONTA on Day 0. Thirty-six previously untreated control dogs were treated with STELFONTA on Day 30. In addition, 18 dogs treated with STELFONTA on Day 0 had the same tumor re-treated with STELFONTA on Day 30 due to incomplete response. The most common adverse reactions included wound formation, injection site pain, lameness in the treated limb, vomiting, diarrhea, and hypalbuminemia. Wound formation, vomiting, and diarrhea were mainly observed within the first 7 to 10 days after treatment. Injection site pain and lameness in the treated leg were mainly observed within the first 2 days after treatment. Hypoalbuminemia was mainly observed within the first 28 days after treatment. All dogs received concomitant medications as noted in the Effectiveness section. The adverse reactions during the study are summarized in Table 1 below.

**Table 1: Adverse Reactions During the Field Study**

Adverse Reaction	STELFONTA 1 <sup>st</sup> Treatment (n = 117)	STELFONTA 2 <sup>nd</sup> Treatment (n = 18)	UNTREATED CONTROL (n = 42)
Wound formation	110 (94.0%)	12 (66.7%)	3 (7.1%)
Injection site pain	61 (52.1%)	7 (38.9%)	1 (2.4%)
Lameness in treated limb	29 (24.8%)	2 (11.1%)	1 (2.4%)
Vomiting	24 (20.5%)	3 (16.7%)	4 (9.5%)
Diarrhea	24 (20.5%)	3 (16.7%)	2 (4.8%)
Hypoalbuminemia <sup>a</sup>	21 (18.0%)	2 (11.1%)	1 (2.4%)
Injection site bruising/erythema/edema/irritation	20 (17.1%)	3 (16.7%)	1 (2.4%)
Anorexia	14 (12.0%)	2 (11.1%)	3 (7.1%)
Regional lymph node swelling/enlargement	13 (11.1%)	1 (5.6%)	1 (2.4%)
Tachycardia	12 (10.3%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (2.4%)
Weight loss	12 (10.3%)	3 (16.7%)	5 (11.9%)
Cystitis	10 (8.6%)	1 (5.6%)	2 (4.8%)
Dermatitis	9 (7.7%)	1 (5.6%)	1 (2.4%)
Personality/behavior change	8 (6.8%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (4.8%)
Infection at injection site	8 (6.8%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Tachypnea	7 (6.0%)	2 (11.1%)	1 (2.4%)
Pruritus	6 (5.1%)	3 (16.7%)	2 (4.8%)
Lethargy/Depression	6 (5.1%)	1 (5.6%)	1 (2.4%)
Pyrexia	3 (2.6%)	2 (11.1%)	0 (0.0%)

<sup>a</sup>There was a statistically significant decrease in albumin and albumin/globulin ratios at Day 7 in the STELFONTA group compared to the control group. The hypoalbuminemia ranged from 2.0 to 2.6 g/dL (reference range 2.7-3.9 g/dL). Note: If an animal experienced the same adverse reaction more than once, only the highest grade was tabulated.

Adverse reactions were graded using the Veterinary Co-operative Oncology Group – Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events (VCOG-CTCAE).<sup>1</sup> Most adverse reactions were Grade 1 (mild) or 2 (moderate). Grade 3 (severe) and 4 (life-threatening) adverse reactions in dogs treated with STELFONTA included: lameness in the treated limb (6 dogs), injection site pain (4 dogs), wound formation (3 dogs), lethargy/depression (3 dogs), anorexia (2 dogs), infection at injection site (1 dog), pruritus (1 dog), and tachycardia (1 dog).

Adverse reactions associated with use of the required concomitant corticosteroids were similarly reported in STELFONTA and untreated control dogs and included elevated alkaline phosphatase, polyuria, and polydipsia.

**Wound Formation**

Tumor observations were conducted at 2, 4, 8, and 24 hours and 4 days after treatment. The 81 dogs treated with STELFONTA on Day 0 were reported most frequently with swelling, bruising, pain and heat at all tumor observation timepoints. The following were reported at 24 hours post treatment:

- Swelling: 97.5% (79/81 dogs)
- Bruising: 91.4% (74/81 dogs)
- Pain: 69.1% (56/81 dogs)
- Heat: 53.1% (43/81 dogs)

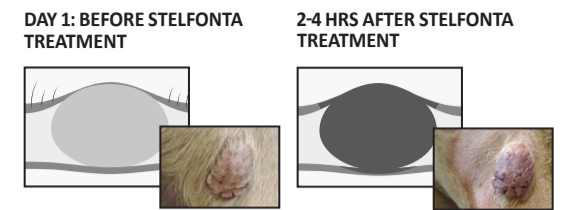
At 24 hours post treatment, intact skin was reported in 71.6% (58/81 dogs) of STELFONTA treated dogs. On Day 4 intact skin was reported in 17.3% (14/81 dogs) of STELFONTA treated dogs. On Day 4, the following observations were reported with the highest frequency:

- Necrosis: 55.6% (45/81 dogs)
- Exudate: 37.0% (30/81 dogs)
- Crater pockets: 37.0% (30/81 dogs)
- Eschar: 28.4% (23/81 dogs)
- Ulceration: 11.1% (9/81 dogs)

A wound healing assessment was performed on the effectiveness dataset which included 80 dogs in the STELFONTA group and 38 dogs in the untreated control group. Wounds developed in 92.5% (74/80) of STELFONTA treated dogs and 2.6% (1/38) of untreated control dogs by Day 7. On Day 28, the presence of wounds was 40% (32/80) in the STELFONTA group and 2.6% (1/38) in the untreated control group. On Day 42 and Day 84, the presence of wounds was 27.1% (16/59) and 1.8% (1/57), respectively, in the STELFONTA group.

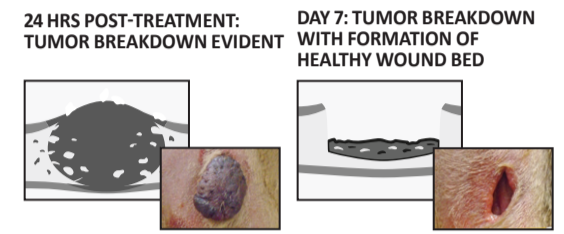
Exudate from the treated site including serous, serosanguinous, sanguineous, seropurulent, and purulent discharges were seen mainly on Day 7 and to a lesser extent on Day 14. Sloughing of the treated site was observed from Day 7 to Day 42, with decreasing frequency after Day 7.

**CLIENT INFORMATION SHEET**



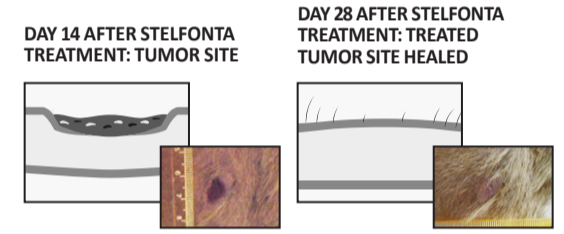
**1-7 DAYS AFTER STELFONTA TREATMENT: Continued Tumor Breakdown**

The treated tumor site will become blackened. The skin over the surface of the tumor may breakdown and fluid may leak from the tumor. Swelling of the treated tumor site may continue causing some discomfort to your dog through this stage. Your veterinarian can prescribe pain medication to help your dog through this period if needed. As the tumor breaks down there will be a 'pocket' or wound where the tumor once was. A healthy wound bed will be seen, reddish in color, which will allow healthy new skin to grow.

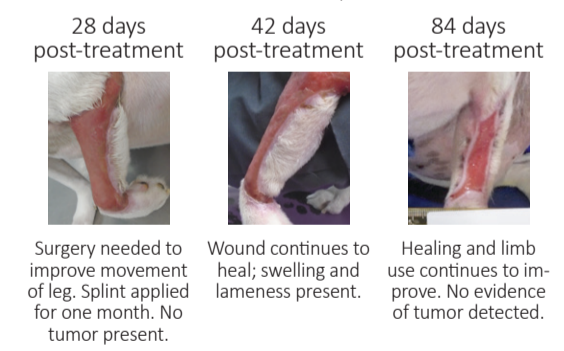
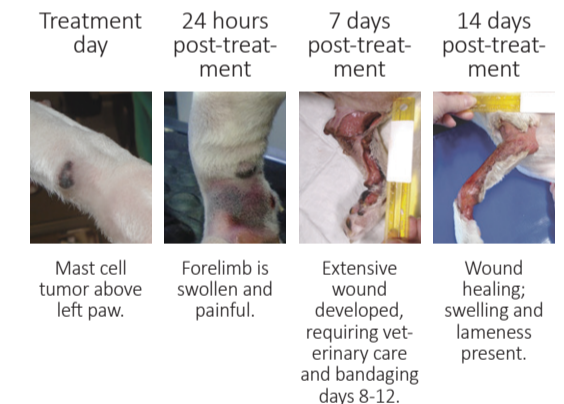


**7 - 42 DAYS AFTER STELFONTA TREATMENT: Wound Resolution**

Healthy new skin will grow and close over the pocket or wound where the tumor once was. In many dogs, the hair will regrow, and skin will return to its original color.



**Some dogs experience extensive wounds after STELFONTA treatment that take longer to heal, as in the case below.**



This Client Information Sheet contains important information about STELFONTA®. Before your dog is treated, you should carefully read this information and discuss the following with your veterinarian:

- How STELFONTA works.
- All parts of your dog's treatment plan. **It is very important to follow the treatment plan exactly as directed.**
- The risks and benefits of STELFONTA, including the potential for serious side effects.

This sheet is provided only as a summary and does not take the place of instructions from your veterinarian. Talk with your veterinarian if you do not understand any of this information or if you want to know more about STELFONTA.

**What is STELFONTA?**

- STELFONTA is a drug used to treat mast cell tumors, a common form of cancer that affects dogs.
- The active ingredient in STELFONTA is tigilanol tiglate, a substance that works by:
  - » Breaking down the tumor cell walls
  - » Disrupting blood vessels in the tumor
  - » Destroying the tumor and forming a 'pocket' or wound where the tumor was.

**What should I tell my veterinarian before my dog is treated with STELFONTA?**

- Tell your veterinarian about all other medications your dog is taking, including prescription drugs, over the counter drugs, flea and tick medications, heartworm and deworming medications, and vitamins and supplements (including herbal or homeopathic products).
- Tell your veterinarian about your dog's previous or current medical conditions, including any infection.
- Tell your veterinarian if your dog is pregnant, is nursing puppies, or is intended for breeding purposes.

**How is STELFONTA given to my dog?**

- Your veterinarian will inject your dog's tumor with STELFONTA. The injection will be given at the veterinary clinic. Your dog may need to be sedated during the procedure.

**What additional medications need to be given to my dog before, on, and after the day of treatment with STELFONTA?**

- To help prevent the potential for severe side effects that can occur, your veterinarian will prescribe three medications:
  - » You must start to give your dog the corticosteroid two days before the STELFONTA treatment day and continue for a total of 10 days.
  - » You will start giving your dog the H1 and H2 blockers on the STELFONTA treatment day and continue for a total of 8 days.
- Your veterinarian will fill out the medication schedule included in this Client Information Sheet for you to follow, so that you can give your dog the medications correctly.
- If you are unable to give your dog the medications as directed, talk to your veterinarian about other options. **Do not skip these medications.**

**How will STELFONTA affect my dog?**

- STELFONTA is used to treat a mast cell tumor on your dog.
- It can be difficult to predict how your dog's tumor will respond to STELFONTA.
- A wound will form where STELFONTA was administered. It is difficult to predict the size and severity of the wound formed. In some cases, an extensive wound that is deeper and/or larger than the original treatment site may develop, which may lead to unexpected complications.
- Tumors treated with STELFONTA typically go through a 4- to 6-week tumor breakdown and healing process.
- The healing process may take longer in some dogs.
- During the tumor breakdown and healing process, your dog may require additional care of the treated tumor site to aid in the healing process.

See the diagrams for more information.

**LESS THAN 4 HOURS AFTER STELFONTA TREATMENT:**

**Start of Tumor Breakdown**

Within the first few hours following treatment with STELFONTA, the cells in the tumor and tumor blood vessels will begin to break down. You will be able to see a change in the color of the tumor. At the same time there is usually swelling at the treated tumor site.

**What are some possible side effects of STELFONTA?**

- STELFONTA may cause side effects, even at the prescribed dose. These side effects include, but are not limited to:
  - » During the first days after treatment, you may see bruising or swelling around the treated tumor site. The swelling may cause your dog some discomfort and pain for several days after treatment. Your dog may seem tired during this time and may eat less.
  - » In some cases, extensive swelling, severe pain, large amounts of discharge, odor, infection, or wound formation extending into the area surrounding the tumor site may develop, delaying wound healing and requiring additional management of the wound. If any of these occur, contact your veterinarian who will assess if your dog requires additional treatments during this time (e.g., pain medications, bandages, an Elizabethan collar, antibiotics). **(see reverse side)**

