# Clinical protocol

**Prior to surgery:**

* Inclusion criteria:
  + > 16 kg
  + Mammary tumor must be bigger than 2 cm3
* Signing of consent form
* Collect 10 ml of blood in Streck tubes with a maximum of 1.6 ml / kg, including any samples taken for paraclinical tests. Keep sample refrigerated until further processing. The sample should be processed within 3 days and *must* be processed within 7 days. Preferably it should be processed the same day.

**After/during surgery:**

* Before fixating the tumor in formalin take 1-2 tumor samples ~(0.3 x 0.3 x 0.3 cm) and put in the cryotubes with RNAlater provided. These samples must not compromise margins/diagnosis. The samples should be kept refrigerated until further processing.

**Follow up:**

* The dog should have a follow-up visit performed every 2 months for a year and then after 18 months. At these visits a clinical examination should be performed and a new blood sample should be collected in a Streck tube (same procedure as the first one).
* If these visits are deem unrealistic to perform, the dog can still be included.
* If there’s signs of relapse, additional procedures/tests might be indicated as per usual (X-ray, FNAsp lnn).

Table 1:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Time | Procedure |
| Day 0 – Day of surgery | Blood sample in Streck tube  Tumor sample in RNAlater  Tumor sent to histology |
| 2 months – First control visit | Blood sample in Streck tube  Clinical examination |
| 4 months | Blood sample in Streck tube  Clinical examination |
| 6 months | Blood sample in Streck tube  Clinical examination |
| 8 months | Blood sample in Streck tube  Clinical examination |
| 10 months | Blood sample in Streck tube  Clinical examination |
| 12 months | Blood sample in Streck tube  Clinical examination |
| 18 months | Blood sample in Streck tube  Clinical examination |