MICROCHIPPING

Medical Reasons
NOT To Microchip

Why NOT To Microchip

RDOWS POSITION
STATEMENT ON MANDATORY MICROCHIPPING

Responsible Dog Owners of the Western States opposes any mandated microchipping of privately held domestic pet animals. The choice of whether to or whether not to microchip should be based upon all available information; and left strictly up to the owner to make for his/her animals. Our research has discovered potential health risks that are posed to domestic pet animals from microchip emplacement. Due to space only two of several findings will be cited:

(1) www.VetPathology.org

Fibrosarcoma with Typical Features of Postinjection Sarcoma at Site of Microchip Implant in a Dog: Histologic and Immunohistochemical Study - M. Vascellari, E. Melchiotti and F. Mutinelli Abstract

A 9-year-old, male French

AKC’s Companion Animal Registry entered the microchip distribution business in 2007 with Trovan brand chips. About the same time there was damning research on VeriChip, which the AKC has considered.

The Associated Press issued a story Sept. 2007 revealing that microchip implants have induced cancer in laboratory animals and dogs, says privacy expert and long-time VeriChip opponent Dr. Katherine Albrecht.

AP reports a series of research articles spanning more than a decade showing that mice and rats injected with glass-encapsulated RFID transponders developed malignant, fast-growing, lethal cancers in up to 1% to 10% of cases. The tumors originated in the tissue surrounding the microchips and often grew

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Bulldog was examined for a subcutaneous mass located at the site of a microchip implant. Cytologic examination of the mass was suggestive of a malignant mesenchymal neoplasm. Histologically, the mass was confirmed as a high-grade infiltrative fibrosarcoma, with multifocal necrosis and peripheral lymphoid aggregates. By immunohistochemistry, the sample was investigated for vimentin, smooth-muscle actin (SMA), CD3, CD79, and CD18.

All the neoplastic cells were positive for vimentin. Scattered cells at the periphery of the lesion were also positive for SMA, highlighting a myofibroblastic phenotype. The lymphoid cells were positive for CD18 and CD3. No aluminum deposits were detected by the aurintricarboxylic acid method. A diagnosis of fibrosarcoma morphologically similar to feline post injection sarcomas was made. Fibrosarcomas at the site of injections have been reported in dogs and ferrets. Furthermore, neoplastic growth at the site of microchip implant in dog and laboratory rodents has been described.

to completely surround the devices, the researchers said.

Albrecht first became aware of the microchip-cancer link when she and her "Spychips" co-author, Liz McIntyre, were contacted by a pet owner whose dog had died from a chip-induced tumor. Albrecht then found medical studies showing a causal link between microchip implants and cancer in other animals. Before she brought the research to the AP's attention, none of the studies had received widespread public notice.

A four-month investigation turned up additional documents, several of which had been published before VeriChip's parent company, Applied Digital Solutions, sought FDA approval to market the implant for humans. The VeriChip received FDA approval in 2004 under the watch of then Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson who later joined the board of the company.

Under FDA policy, it would have been VeriChip's responsibility to bring the adverse studies to the
Tumors in long-term rat studies associated with microchip animal identification devices.

Tumors surrounding implanted microchip animal identification devices were noted in two separate chronic toxicity/oncogenicity studies using F344 rats. The tumors occurred at a low incidence rate (approximately 1 percent), but did result in the early sacrifice of most affected animals, due to tumor size and occasional metastases. No sex-related trends were noted. All tumors occurred during the second year of the studies, were located in the subcutaneous dorsal thoracic area (the site of microchip implantation) and contained embedded microchip devices. All were mesenchymal in origin and consisted of the following types, listed in order of frequency: malignant schwannoma, fibrosarcoma, anaplastic sarcoma, and histiocytic sarcoma. The following diagnostic techniques were employed: light microscopy, scanning electron microscopy, and immunohistochemistry. The mechanism of carcinogenicity appeared to be that of foreign-body induced tumorigenesis.

Centre national de la FDA's attention, but VeriChip CEO Scott Silverman claimed the company was unaware of the research.

Albrecht expressed skepticism that a company like VeriChip, whose primary business is microchip implants, would be unaware of relevant studies in the published literature.

"For Mr. Silverman not to know about this research would be negligent. If he did know about these studies, he certainly had an incentive to keep them quiet," said Albrecht. "Had the FDA known about the cancer link, they might never have approved his company's product."

Since gaining FDA approval, VeriChip has aggressively targeted diabetic and dementia patients, and recently announced that it had chipped 90 Alzheimer's patients and their caregivers in Florida. Employees in the Mexican Attorney General's Office, workers in a U.S. security firm, and club-goers in Europe have also been implanted.

Albrecht expressed concern for those who
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have received a chip implant, urging them to get the devices removed as soon as possible.

"These new revelations change everything," she said. "Why would anyone take the risk of a having cancer chip in their arm?"

Dr. Katherine Albrecht - Founder and Director, CASPIAN Consumer Privacy - kma@spychips.com (877) 287-5854

Also on the negative side of microchipping, there is the fact that the radical futuristic group ALF promotes chipping. The National Animal Identification System (NAIS) explains it isn't just about tracking food animals, especially with the 2010 administration's sudden interest in controlling food through new legislation. Dr. Lee is right, the "future is here..." Haywood covered Spychips as far back as 2006 and did a follow up in Spychips Revisted.

On the positive side, microchips can help recover your pet. There is no shortage of heartwarming stories in the media, many generated by the microchip manufacturers. Sorry, but that is all we could find on the plus side of microchipping. When weighed against the risk of cancer, many owners feel secure fencing is far safer. Fish and other foodstuffs are now being chipped and watchers predict our children and grandparents may be next.