Background & Purpose
- The purpose of this study is to critically evaluate different methods of measuring the size of one of the heart chambers (i.e., the left atrium) that is associated with severity of disease, treatment decisions, and prognosis.

Participation Requirements
- Dogs:
  - Must be at least 6 years of age
  - Weigh less than 20 kg (44 pounds)
  - Have a heart murmur
  - Cannot be taking any cardiovascular medications
- Before your pet begins the study, your pet will need to have a cardiovascular exam, routine echocardiogram (heart ultrasound) and chest X-rays to find out if he/she can be in the study.

Procedures
- If your pet qualifies and you choose to enroll them, your dog will undergo 4 echocardiograms (two in the morning and two in the afternoon) for 3 non-consecutive days (i.e., Monday, Wednesday, and Friday), totaling 12 echocardiograms.

Owner Responsibilities
- Pay for any additional diagnostics/treatments as recommended by the attending cardiologist
- Bring your dog in (with no overnight stay) on 3 non-consecutive days (i.e., Monday, Wednesday, and Friday) within the same week

Benefits
- The study will cover the cost of the initial physical examination, chest x-ray, and all echocardiograms in the study.
- Results will help guide diagnostic, therapeutic, and prognostic decisions in other dogs with this myxomatous mitral valve disease, the most common heart disease in our canine population.