



Military dogs which used to protect soldiers are now trained for something else. Italian scientists are training them to **sniff out** prostate cancer in patients' **urine**.

Dogs' noses are very powerful, as they have up to 300 million sensors compared to only six million in humans. One dog was even able to identify the disease in a patient before the medical team.

However, you will not see dogs in hospitals any time soon. The team wants to **develop** an electronic tool which would work like the dog's sense of smell.

Difficult words: **sniff out** (find by smell), **urine** (the scientific word for 'pee'), **develop** (create, make).

**Discussion Questions****Topic Talk**

1. Define the following words: *sniff out*, *urine* and *develop*
2. According to the article, what are military dogs being trained for these days?
3. What do dogs have that make them identify this kind of disease?
4. Does this article suggest that we will be seeing dogs in hospitals to help doctors identify patients' illnesses?
5. What does the medical team want to develop?

Express Your Thoughts

1. What is your opinion about this new medical development?
2. Did you realize dogs could be this useful to humans?
3. In what other fields are dogs being used as support to people's work nowadays?
4. After learning this medical aid dogs can give us, do you think people will value and care for them more?