

Ultrasounds are performed in our hospital by Dr. Pierre Burke, a board eligible Radiologist, from VIDI Veterinary Services.

Before the Scan

We ask that pets are fasted for 4 hours prior to their scan.

If your pet is having an abdominal scan, they should be fasted for 12 hours prior.

Please arrive in good time for the scheduled scan. We want to ensure that we have time to properly check your pet in. Please note that the entire process may take up to 3 hours, and we invite you to run errands or go grab a coffee while the procedure is underway.

During the Scan

In order to maintain our standards for efficiency and safety, we do not allow owners to be present in the room during the procedure except under rare circumstances when this is arranged in advance.

A veterinary assistant will hold your pet in a specially designed padded bed during the procedure to ensure they are comfortable and calm. We will usually use sedation in order to make the procedure less stressful. This also allows us to obtain better quality images.

We will shave the area being imaged, and will apply a water-soluble gel to the skin to improve image quality. We will do our best to thoroughly wipe the gel off after the procedure, but will leave any additional bathing to you, since it generally better tolerated in a familiar environment.

Guided Samples

If samples are required for diagnostic purposes, we can use the ultrasound to help us safely guide a needle into the appropriate area. Again, sedation is usually used in these situations. In order to reduce the risk of bleeding when sampling certain organs, we recommend that platelet numbers be tested recently for fine needle aspirates and a coagulation panel be tested a day or two ahead of time for "core" TruCut biopsies.

After the Appointment

One of our Patient Care Team members will call you after the scan to let you know when your pet will be ready to go home. Sometimes you may receive preliminary results on the same day as the ultrasound. Final results will be available in the next few days, and the supervising veterinarian will call with results during their next shift in the clinic.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions regarding your ultrasound appointment

Phone: 250-727-2125

Email: contact.us@mckvets.com