

Cardiology and Respiratory Service

We recognise that, in many instances, it may not initially be clear whether a problem is primarily cardiac, respiratory or even both. In such circumstances an isolated echocardiography examination may only answer part of the question whereas a structured approach to investigation, by Specialists with expertise in several areas, is much more beneficial. A common example is the case of the coughing dog where only a meticulous and multi-faceted investigation is likely to yield an accurate diagnosis and indicate optimal management procedures.

Our range of Cardiorespiratory Services includes echocardiography, ultrasound, phonocardiography, angiography, computed radiography, endoscopy, on-site MRI scanning and off-site CT scanning. Procedures undertaken routinely include pericardial drainage, assessment and thoracoscopic pericardiectomy, investigation and management of pleural space disorders, Holter monitoring and interpretation. The service benefits greatly from the availability of state-of-the-art equipment and close liaison between Specialists in medicine, surgery, diagnostic imaging and clinical pathology.

Diagnostic Imaging

We are extremely fortunate to work in partnership with a team of Diagnostic Imaging Specialists who have a wealth of varied experience across the range of sophisticated imaging equipment at their disposal. This includes a 3D/4D and contrast-enhanced ultrasound facility and on-site MRI scanning. Very often a barrier to accurate medical diagnosis is lack of clarity and clinical experience in interpreting complex imaging findings. Although many centres offer advanced diagnostic imaging, without the specialist experience of specific techniques, and the expertise to interpret results, their true benefits may not be realised. The collaboration with our Diagnostic Imaging Specialists enhances our ability to provide a first class service.

Endoscopy

Our clinical expertise and experience, combined with state of the art endoscopy equipment, allows us to offer a full range of diagnostic and therapeutic endoscopic procedures, these include:

- Upper and lower gastrointestinal endoscopy and biopsy
- Tracheobronchoscopy and bronchoalveolar lavage
- Rhinoscopy (rigid and flexible, anterograde and retrograde) and biopsy
- Urethrocystoscopy (in male and female dogs and female cats)
- Vaginoscopy
- Foreign body retrievals (airways, oesophagus and stomach)
- Placement of percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy (PEG) feeding tubes and J- through G- feeding tubes
- Endoscopic stent placement using interventional radiology
- Balloon dilatation of strictures with intra-lesional anti-inflammatory medication injections
- Thoracoscopy and laparoscopy performed by colleagues in Soft Tissue Surgery

Endocrinology

Endocrine cases can prove to be particularly challenging and our Internal Medicine Specialists all have a strong interest in the diagnosis and management of endocrine diseases. Because of their extensive clinical exposure, they have a great deal of experience in dealing with complex endocrinopathies and work closely with colleagues involved in laboratory assessment of endocrine conditions, including many at human teaching hospitals. Having an on-site clinical pathology laboratory with expertise in assessment of endocrine disease is also invaluable.

