



**ENDOVET**

R E F E R R A L S

# Endoscopic Laser Ablation



# Introduction:

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At EndoVet Referrals, we offer laser ablation as a minimally invasive treatment for conditions affecting the urinary, respiratory, and gastrointestinal systems. This advanced technique reduces the need for traditional surgery, allowing for faster recovery and minimal discomfort for your pet.

## What is Intervention Endoscopy - Laser Ablation

Laser ablation uses a specialized endoscope equipped with a laser to precisely remove or reduce abnormal tissue, break down obstructions, or treat strictures. This non-invasive approach minimizes trauma, bleeding, and post-operative pain compared to traditional surgical procedures.

## Indications for a Laser Ablation?

Laser ablation may be recommended for conditions such as:

- Ectopic Ureters – Abnormal positioning of the ureters leading to urinary incontinence.
- Urethral or Tracheal Stenosis – Narrowing of the urethra or trachea affecting urine flow or breathing.
- Polyps or Tumours – Non-invasive removal of benign or malignant growths in the respiratory, urinary, or digestive systems.
- Persistent Right Aortic Arch (PRAA) Strictures – Laser-assisted correction of esophageal narrowing caused by vascular anomalies.
- Other Obstructive Conditions – Removal of obstructive tissues that impair normal function in affected organs

## What are the alternatives?

If laser ablation is not suitable or unsuccessful, alternative treatments may include:

- Surgical Resection: Traditional surgery to remove abnormal tissue, particularly for large or complex growths.
- Balloon Dilation: Used for strictures in the airway, urethra, or esophagus to widen narrow passages.
- Medical Management: In some cases, medications such as anti-inflammatories or steroids may be used to manage symptoms or slow disease progression.
- Stent Placement: If obstructions cannot be removed, a stent may be placed to keep the airway, urethra, or other passageways open.

## What are the risks?

### Anaesthetic Risks

- Reactions to sedation or anaesthesia, particularly in pets with pre-existing conditions such as heart, liver, or kidney disease.

### Procedure-related Risks

- Incomplete Removal: Some conditions may require additional treatments or follow-up procedures.
- Tissue Damage: While precise, laser application can cause unintended damage to surrounding tissue in rare cases.
- Incomplete Removal: Some conditions may require additional treatments or follow-up procedures.
- Swelling or Inflammation: Temporary irritation at the treatment site, which usually resolves with supportive care.

Our experienced team takes every precaution to minimise these risks and ensure a successful outcome.

# Endoscopic Laser Ablation Procedure

## Pre-Operative Consultation

- Pre-clinical examination of your pet.
- Procedure discussion with a senior surgeon.
- For long-distance clients, a clinical examination may be carried out by your local vet and a phone consultation will be arranged with one of our senior surgeons prior to surgery.
- Medical Review: Please inform us of all your pet's medications, including over-the-counter treatments. Certain drugs, like steroids or NSAIDs, may need to be paused, and special instructions apply for pets with conditions like diabetes or heart disease.

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## Admission & Preparation

- Withhold food for 6–12 hours before the procedure.
- Water: Restrict water for 2–4 hours prior to arrival.
- Please make sure your pet has had the opportunity to go to the toilet before arriving at the clinic.
- A team member will review the procedure with you, answer any questions, and obtain your consent.
- Your pet will undergo a clinical examination, and blood tests or imaging (e.g., ultrasound or CT scan) may be performed.
- An intravenous catheter will be placed to administer fluids, anaesthesia, and medications if needed.

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## Laser Ablation Procedure

- Your pet will be placed under general anaesthesia to ensure comfort and safety. A flexible endoscope is inserted into the affected area, allowing our specialist to visualize the tissue with precision. A laser fiber is passed through the endoscope and used to carefully remove or reduce the targeted abnormal tissue. The procedure is controlled to minimize damage to surrounding structures. In most cases, this approach significantly reduces post-operative discomfort and promotes faster recovery.

The procedure typically takes 30–90 minutes, depending on the complexity of the case.

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## Recovery & Monitoring

- Your pet will be closely monitored until they recover from anaesthesia.
- A small, bland meal will be offered before discharge.
- Most pets experience minimal discomfort due to the small incisions, and additional pain relief will be provided if needed.

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## Home Recovery

- Rest & Activity Restriction: Keep your pet calm and limit activity for 24–48 hours.
- Feeding: Provide small, soft meals for the first 24 hours to allow the digestive system to recover.
- Monitoring: Watch for signs of discomfort, vomiting, or changes in behaviour.

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## Next Steps & Follow Up

- Most pets recover quickly after interventional endoscopy, but a follow-up appointment may be recommended to ensure healing.
- If biopsies were taken during the procedure, results will typically be available within a few days, and our team will discuss any further treatment if needed.

# Further information

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## When to contact us:

Contact us immediately if you notice:

- Difficulty breathing, swallowing, or urinating.
- Excessive swelling, discomfort, or unusual symptoms.
- Any concerns about your pet's recovery.

## Contact Us

To Refer a routine case, please use the referral form on our website.

Call:  
01543 373 033

Email:  
[Referrals@endovetclinic.co.uk](mailto:Referrals@endovetclinic.co.uk)

## Our Services

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To see our full list of services, visit:  
[www.veterinaryendoscopy.co.uk](http://www.veterinaryendoscopy.co.uk)

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