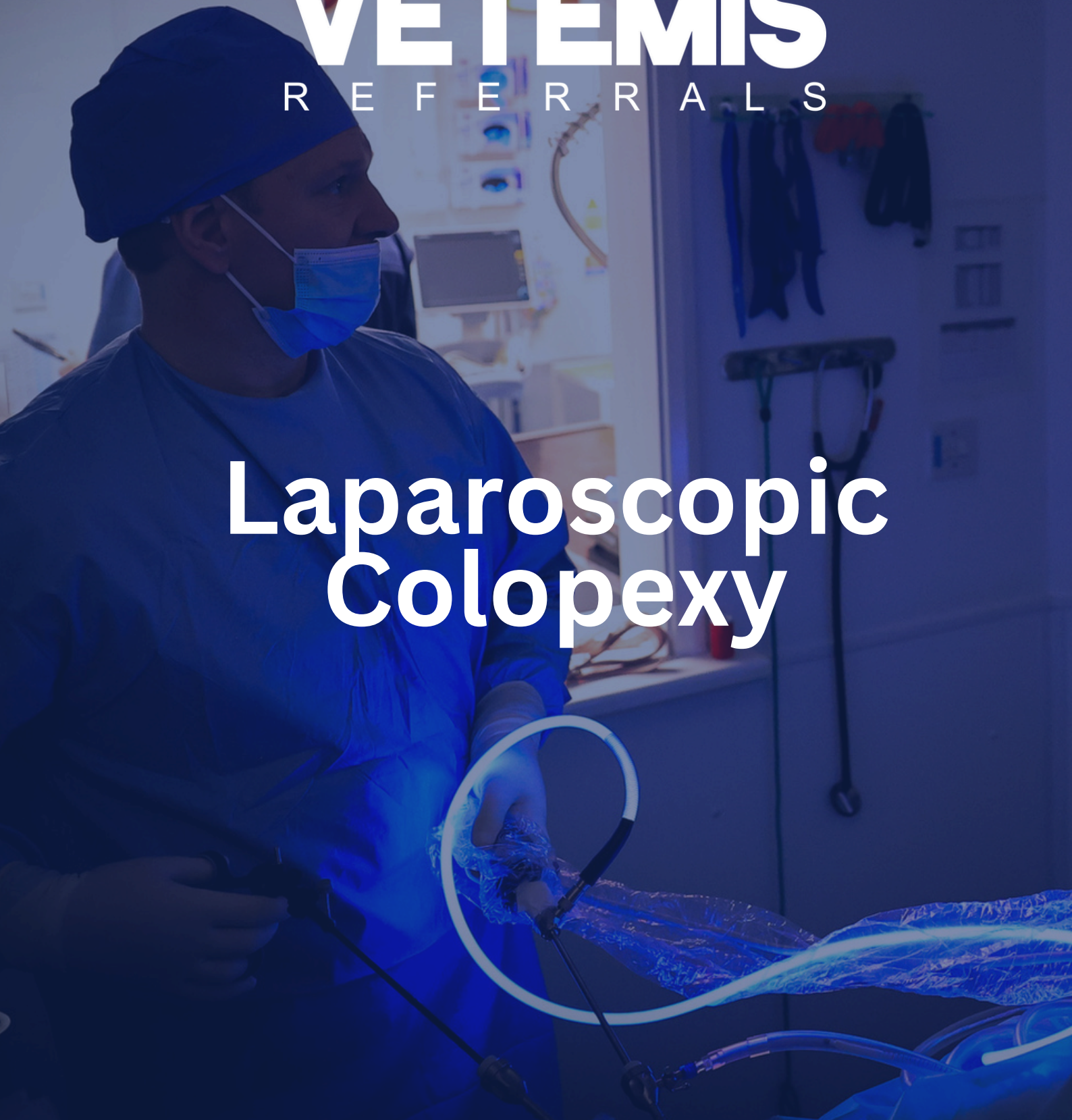




**VETEMIS**  
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# Laparoscopic Colopexy



# Introduction:

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At Vetemis Referrals, we are dedicated to providing advanced surgical care for your pet. This guide explains laparoscopic colopexy, why it may be recommended, how to prepare, and what to expect during and after the procedure. If you have further questions, our team is always happy to help.

## What is a Laparoscopic Colopexy?

Laparoscopic colopexy is a minimally invasive surgical procedure used to secure the colon to the abdominal wall. This prevents abnormal movement or twisting of the colon, which can lead to life-threatening conditions like colonic torsion.

Using a small camera and specialized instruments, our veterinary team performs the procedure through small incisions, ensuring a safer and less painful alternative to traditional open surgery.

This advanced approach offers:

- Reduced pain and discomfort.
- Faster recovery times.
- Smaller surgical scars.

## Indications for a Laparoscopic Colopexy?

Laparoscopic colopexy is recommended for pets at risk of or suffering from conditions such as:

- Recurrent colonic torsion or volvulus.
- Chronic gastrointestinal disturbances that affect colon stability.
- Preventive measures in certain high-risk breeds.

This procedure helps improve your pet's quality of life by preventing future episodes of colonic instability.

## 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

- Minor Bleeding: Small amounts of bleeding may occur but usually resolve quickly.
- Infection: Although rare, infection at the incision sites is possible and can be treated with antibiotics.
- Adhesions: Internal scarring can occur but is uncommon with laparoscopic techniques.

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

# Laparoscopic Colopexy 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.

1

## Admission & Preparation

- Withhold food for 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 may be performed to assess overall health.
- An intravenous catheter will be placed to administer fluids, anaesthesia, and medications if needed.

2

## Laparoscopic Colopexy

- Your pet will be anaesthetised to ensure they remain still and comfortable during the procedure.
- Small incisions will be made in the abdomen to insert the laparoscope and surgical instruments.
- The colon is carefully secured to the abdominal wall using sutures or other fixation methods.

The procedure typically takes 30–45 minutes, depending on the complexity of the case.

3

## 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 for 24–48 hours post-surgery. Additional pain relief will be provided if needed.

4

## Home Recovery

- Keep your pet calm and restrict activity for 7–10 days.
- Prevent licking or chewing at the incision sites by using a collar if necessary.
- Follow all medication instructions provided to manage pain and inflammation.

5

## Next Steps & Follow Up

- Most pets recover fully within two weeks.
- Follow-up appointments will be scheduled to ensure proper healing and monitor for any complications.

# Further information

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## When to contact us:

Contact us if you notice:

- Persistent vomiting or diarrhoea.
- Signs of infection, such as redness, swelling, or discharge at the incision sites.
- Unusual lethargy or loss of appetite.
- Difficulty defecating.

## Contact Us

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

Call:

01543 373 033

Email:

Referrals@vetemis.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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