



**VETEMIS**  
R E F E R R A L S

**Cystoscopy**

# Introduction:

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At Vetemis Referrals, we strive to provide advanced diagnostic and treatment options to support your pet's health. This guide explains cystoscopy, 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 here to help.

## What is a Cystoscopy?

Cystoscopy is a minimally invasive procedure used to examine the lower urinary tract, including the bladder and urethra. A small, rigid or flexible endoscope equipped with a camera and light is inserted into the urethra to provide a detailed view of the urinary tract.

This technique allows for precise diagnosis and targeted treatment of urinary conditions while minimizing discomfort for your pet.

## Indications for a Cystoscopy?

Cystoscopy may be recommended to investigate:

- Frequent or painful urination.
- Blood in the urine (haematuria).
- Persistent urinary tract infections.
- Suspected bladder stones, tumours, or polyps.
- Straining to urinate or difficulty passing urine.
- Urinary incontinence.

The procedure is also used to collect tissue samples (biopsies), remove foreign objects or stones, or assess congenital abnormalities.

## 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: Sampling or instrumentation may cause minor bleeding, which usually resolves quickly.
- Urinary Irritation: Temporary discomfort or difficulty urinating may occur after the procedure.
- Rare Complications: Rarely, the endoscope may cause irritation or minor injury to the urethra or bladder.

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

# Cystoscopy 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 and obtain your consent.
- Your pet will have a clinical examination, and blood tests may be performed to ensure they are healthy enough for anaesthesia.
- An intravenous catheter will be placed to administer fluids, anaesthesia, and emergency medications if needed.

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## Cystoscopy Procedure

- Your pet will be anaesthetised to ensure comfort and stillness during the procedure.
- The endoscope is carefully inserted into the urethra and guided into the bladder.
- The veterinary surgeon may:
  - Assess the bladder and urethra for abnormalities.
  - Collect tissue or fluid samples for laboratory analysis.
  - Remove bladder stones, polyps, or foreign objects.
  - If necessary, treatments such as urethral dilation or flushing may be performed.
- The procedure typically takes 30–45 minutes, depending on the complexity of the case.

3

## Recovery & Monitoring

- Your pet will be monitored closely after anaesthesia to ensure a smooth recovery. A small, bland meal will be offered before discharge.

4

## Home Recovery

- Keep your pet calm and indoors (or on a lead for dogs) for 24 hours after the procedure.
- Monitor for mild blood in the urine or temporary straining, which should resolve within 24–48 hours.

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## Next Steps & Follow Up

- Test results (e.g., biopsy or fluid analysis) are typically available within 7–10 days, and we will contact you to discuss the findings.
- Follow-up appointments will be scheduled to assess your pet's progress or provide further treatment if necessary.

# Further information

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## When to contact us:

Contact us immediately if you notice:

- Persistent blood in the urine.
- Difficulty or inability to urinate.
- Vomiting, lethargy, or loss of appetite.

## Contact Us

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

Call:

01543 373 033

Email:

[Referrals@vetemis.co.uk](mailto: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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