



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

# Endoscopic Polypectomy

# Introduction:

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At Vetemis Referrals, we offer advanced interventional endoscopy procedures, such as polypectomy, a minimally invasive technique for removing polyps from the respiratory, gastrointestinal, or urinary tract. This procedure reduces the need for invasive surgery, promoting faster recovery and minimising discomfort for your pet.

## What is Intervention Endoscopy - Polypectomy

Polypectomy is a minimally invasive endoscopic procedure to remove polyps, which are abnormal tissue growths that can develop in the nasal passages, intestines, bladder, or other areas. Using an endoscope equipped with specialised tools, the polyp is carefully removed without the need for major surgery.

## Indications for Polypectomy?

Polypectomy may be recommended for pets with:

- Nasal Polyps – Nasal polyps cause breathing difficulties, nasal discharge, or sneezing.
- Gastrointestinal Polyps – These lead to vomiting, diarrhoea, or blood in the stool.
- Bladder Polyps – Resulting in urinary discomfort, frequent urination, or blood in the urine.
- Ear Polyps – Affecting hearing and balance or causing ear infections.

Early removal can prevent complications such as obstruction, infection, or malignancy.

## What are the alternatives?

Polypectomy may be recommended for pets with:

- Surgical Polypectomy: Traditional open surgery may be required for large or complex polyps that cannot be removed endoscopically.
- Medical Management: Some inflammatory polyps may respond to medications such as steroids or anti-inflammatories, though this does not remove the polyp itself.
- Monitoring: In cases where polyps are small and not causing symptoms, periodic monitoring may be an option.

## 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

- Bleeding: Minimal bleeding may occur but is usually controlled during the procedure.
- Recurrence: Some polyps may regrow, requiring further treatment.
- Tissue Damage: Rarely, adjacent tissue may be affected during polyp removal.
- Infection: A low risk, but antibiotics may be prescribed if needed.

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

# Endoscopic Polypectomy 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 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 may be performed.
- An intravenous catheter will be placed to administer fluids, anaesthesia, and medications if needed.

2

## Polypectomy Procedure

- Your pet will be placed under general anaesthesia for their comfort and safety. A flexible endoscope is inserted into the affected area, allowing our vet to visualise and access the polyp with precision. Using specialised instruments such as forceps or a snare, the polyp is carefully removed. In some cases, electrocautery may be used to minimize bleeding and ensure complete removal.

The procedure typically takes 30–60 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, and additional pain relief will be provided if needed.

4

## Home Recovery

- Rest & Activity Restriction: Keep your pet calm and limit activity for 24–48 hours.
- Feeding: A soft or modified diet may be recommended depending on the polyp location.
- Monitoring: Watch for signs of discomfort, vomiting, or changes in behaviour.

5

## 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:

- Persistent bleeding, swelling, or discomfort.
- Difficulty breathing, swallowing, or urinating.
- Any unusual symptoms or concerns about recovery.

## 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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