

Understand What's Going On With Your Best Friend...

From The Inside, Out

Diagnostic Ultrasound

Ultrasound allows us to look in very fine detail at soft tissue structures that are not visible on X-rays in order to thoroughly evaluate each abdominal organ and identify very small abnormalities.

Risks of Diagnostic Ultrasound

Because there is no radiation used, there are no risks to your pet from the ultrasound itself. Many pets need at least light sedation and are calmer with it. The risk of sedation is minimal.

Fine Needle Aspiration

Ultrasound tells us if a nodule or mass is there but doesn't tell us specifically what it is. Fine needle aspiration involves using ultrasound to guide a needle into the nodule or abnormal organ. The sample is then sent to a pathologist for analysis.

Risks of Fine Needle Aspiration

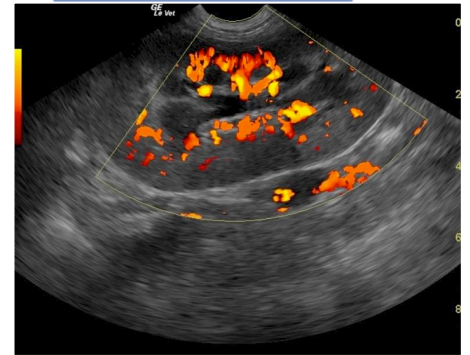
2-3% of patients undergoing FNA will experience mild bleeding and will require monitoring at your veterinarian after the procedure to ensure that the bleeding stops. FNA samples do not always provide a diagnosis, and sometimes a surgical biopsy is needed.

Echocardiograms

An echocardiogram is an ultrasound of the heart. With an X-ray of the heart, we can just see the overall size of the heart. With an echocardiogram, we see how big each chamber is, what the structures of the heart look like, how well it is functioning, and can evaluate the flow of blood through the heart. With this information, we can tell if an animal has mild heart disease, or if medication might be needed to keep the heart functioning well and improve quality of life. It also tells us if there is an increased risk for anesthesia and how to manage that.

Risks of Echocardiograms

It is a very safe procedure that takes about 15 minutes. A small area of hair is clipped, and the pet lies on its side on a pillow for the procedure. If the pet is moving a lot or anxious, a mild sedative might be needed to allow for patient comfort and accurate measurement



All About Potomac Mobile Veterinary Ultrasound

Dr. Cathy Jarrett



- I graduated from VMRCVM (Virginia Tech) and have spent many years in a general vet practice in the Virginia area. I am passionate about finding out answers for my patients and was drawn to ultrasound because it gave me the answers I needed faster, more accurately, less invasively, and less expensively than most other diagnostics. I love ultrasound and have had over 20 years of training and experience. I founded Potomac Mobile Veterinary Ultrasound in 2018.
- My ultrasound images are sent to specialists for guidance on how to best treat your pet. A detailed report, complete with images, is sent to your vet next day.
- I come to your clinic. I enjoy collaborating with local veterinarians to find the most beneficial treatment options for your pet in the comfort of your regular veterinary practice. This reduces the expense, stress, and travel involved for you.



Potomac Mobile Veterinary Ultrasound

Talk to Your Vet About Diagnostic Ultrasound and Your Pet

Tips if Your Pet Needs an Ultrasound

- No food for 12 hours prior to the exam. Water is fine (and encouraged).
- Do not allow your pet to urinate for at least two hours prior to the ultrasound.
- In order to obtain a diagnostic ultrasound, your pet will need to be shaved.
- Discuss sedation and fine needle aspirates with your veterinarian prior to the procedure.

