

Insight Imaging & Diagnostics

Sonograms with Insight

Your Pet's Ultrasound Appointment: What to Expect

Morning drop-off

Drop-off time: 8:00 AM

This allows time for patient check-in, preparation, and imaging. The hospital will contact you once the image acquisition and (if indicated and consented to) diagnostic procedures are finished.

Fasting instructions

- **No food for 12 hours before the appointment (scheduled sonograms)**
- **Water is allowed**

Fasting improves image quality by reducing gas and food material in the stomach and intestines, which can interfere with ultrasound imaging. Also, this will allow for safely sedating your pet if needed.

Shaving and preparation

For diagnostic-quality images:

- Hair/fur will be clipped from the area being scanned
- Alcohol and ultrasound gel will be applied to the skin

Clipping is necessary to allow proper contact between the probe and the skin and to ensure clear, accurate, diagnostic images.

Sedation (if needed)

Some pets are painful, anxious, or fearful in the hospital setting, or unable to comfortably hold the positions required for imaging. If recommended, **light sedation can:**

- Improve **image quality and diagnostic accuracy**
- Reduce **stress, fear, and discomfort**
- Increase **patient safety** during the procedure

Sedation is not required for every patient, but when used, your pet will be closely monitored.

Diagnosis and next steps

Ultrasound findings are interpreted alongside your pet's physical exam, history, and laboratory results. While ultrasound provides powerful diagnostic information, no single test gives all the answers. In some cases, additional testing or ultrasound-guided sampling may be recommended to reach a diagnosis. A detailed report will be provided to guide treatment and the next steps.

Questions?

If you have any concerns about fasting, medications, or your pet's appointment, please contact the veterinary hospital prior to your scheduled drop-off.

Reporting Times

STAT Ultrasound: 2-6 hours for finalized report turnaround time between 8am-8pm weekdays.

Routine Ultrasound: 24 hours for finalized report turnaround time between 8am-6pm weekdays.

Sat & Sun: STAT: Preliminary email reports generated in 2-6 hours. Finalized reports generated Mondays.