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Pre-anaesthetic evaluation

Our in-house laboratory includes the most up-to-date biochemistry & haematology analysers. This allows the accurate measurement of a wide range of blood tests.

Blood analysis is an invaluable tool in our efforts to improve anaesthetic safety. Many of the problems encountered during anaesthesia are due to undiagnosed, pre-existing diseases. A comprehensive biochemistry profile run on the *Vetscan* analyser allows us to detect many of the important organ failures before any drugs have been administered to the patient.

This includes liver disease, kidney dysfunction and diabetes amongst others. The parameters measured include:

Urea Creatinine	Urea and creatinine are waste products that the kidneys normally remove from the blood.
ALT ALP Bilirubin	ALT and ALP are enzymes (proteins) found inside liver cells. When the liver is damaged, blood levels of these proteins rise. Bilirubin is a waste product normally removed from the blood by the liver.
Amylase	An enzyme produced by the pancreas and released into the blood if the organ is damaged.
Glucose	The main sugar found in the blood and elevated in diabetes.
Total protein	High blood protein (globulin) reflects infection; low blood protein (albumin) is particularly dangerous during anaesthesia.
Haematocrit	A count of the number of red blood cells in the circulation. This test, which is performed separately, detects anaemia.

Additional haematology analysis allows us to identify underlying inflammation & infection. Once diagnosed, the appropriate treatment can be given to ensure the utmost patient safety during any investigation or surgical procedure.

Heart function is monitored during gaseous anaesthesia using pulse-oximetry & oesophageal stethoscopes. Where heart disease is suspected, a preliminary ECG is recommended using our state of the art small animal computerised ECG program.

Additional services offered whilst your pet is under anaesthesia include:

- Ultrasonic dental descale (included with dental extractions)
- Growth removal
- Identification microchip implantation
- Vaccination
- Anal gland expression
- Pedicure

Should you require any further information or services, please ask at reception or enquire by email. **MacDonald Veterinary Clinics, Cheltenham.**

