

Hospitalisation facilities and services

In some circumstances, it may be best for your pet to be admitted to our hospital where treatment at home is not an option, for example, for a procedure or where intensive nursing is required. All our patients are hospitalised at our Christchurch hospital where we have inpatient nursing staff on site 24-hours a day with a dedicated duty vet out-of-hours.

Hospitalisation includes:

- Food and bedding (if your pet is on a special diet we may ask you to bring some in for continuity)
- At least twice daily vet checks
- Iv catheter checks and re-bandaging.
- Regular nurses checks, including midnight, 3am and 6am.
- At least 2 blood pressure checks (more if indicated)
- 1x fluid pump for accurate intravenous fluid administration
- +/- fluid heater to ensure your pet stays warm
- Regular trips to the garden (dogs only) to stretch their legs and do their business
- Usually at least 2x vet updates to owner
- Plenty of TLC...in fact we often get quite attached!!

We have an in-house laboratory where urgent blood tests can be run as well as imaging e.g. x-ray, ultrasound and endoscope which can be performed on-site to aid with diagnosis.

Overnight care

Animals that are admitted to our hospital overnight are cared for by the on-site inpatient nurse acting under the direction of the duty veterinary surgeon. We hold ward rounds between 1700 and 1800 when all the patients are examined and discussed prior to the night shift and the duty vet will decide on the level of monitoring that each inpatient needs and instruct the inpatient nurse accordingly.

The duty vet will not be resident in the hospital all night but will visit inpatients as and when he/she deems it necessary or if requested by the duty nurse. The duty nurse will either be in the cattery, kennels or prep room as needed or will be upstairs in the overnight accommodation.

Inpatients will only be left alone in the hospital (with the duty nurse upstairs) if they are giving no concern to the duty staff. It is standard procedure for animals to be regularly monitored until midnight, checked at 0300 – 0400 and then monitored again from 0600-0700, even if they are not critical cases. If an animal is critically ill it will be observed and nursed **intensively** all night (please note additional “intensive nursing” charges may apply in this situation).