

Haematology and immune-mediated diseases

Successful management of haematological disorders is often dependent on a great deal of clinical experience gained through specialist training. Equally important is a close partnership between Specialist clinicians and veterinary clinical pathologists. At Dick White Referrals, our laboratory is headed by Butty Villiers, DipECVP, FRCPath, and her expertise facilitates a particularly productive relationship. For example, we are able to obtain bone marrow analyses within minutes of collection.

Oncology

We are proud to offer a comprehensive, multidisciplinary oncology service that encompasses all aspects of modern cancer medicine, from the initial assessment, clinical disease staging and paraneoplastic complication consideration to chemotherapy and/or comprehensive surgery, including intra-cavitary cytotoxic therapy administration where appropriate. We are always prepared to discuss the range of treatment options with owners and referring veterinarians to facilitate the optimal decision for each individual patient, paying particular attention to their welfare and quality of life.

In addition to our clinical work, we have several on-going scientific investigations in the field of small animal oncology, thereby endeavouring to advance our knowledge and bring further benefits to patients in the future.

We also run an out-patient Oncology Clinic which works in conjunction with referring veterinarians to decide upon and administer appropriate chemotherapeutic regimes. We ensure that owners feel fully supported in their initial decision-making process to determine the correct treatment for their pet. In addition, we offer continual support during the treatment phase (especially in the unfortunate event of

complications developing) and post treatment period. We always make ourselves available to the clients and the referring veterinary surgeons at any point after the patient has been discharged should further advice or guidance be sought.

Clinical Pathology Laboratory

Our on-site laboratory provides haematology, biochemistry, urinalyses, cytology, assessment of effusions, endocrine tests, investigation of coagulation disorders and therapeutic drug monitoring. The laboratory is staffed by a dedicated team of highly qualified laboratory technicians, headed by a European Specialist in Veterinary Clinical Pathology. State-of-the-art equipment and regular externally-validated quality control ensure that we obtain consistently accurate results with minimum delay. Our clinical pathologist is an integral part of the medicine team, attending rounds each morning to discuss laboratory results in the light of clinical findings.

This facility allows us to provide follow-up assessments on samples submitted from referring veterinarians, which can then be interpreted by both Clinical Pathology and Medicine Specialists.

Education

At Dick White Referrals we are committed to the provision of educational programmes, including CPD training to practitioners, residents, interns and nurses. As a private referral practice, we are proud to be one of the first non-academic centres in the UK to receive accreditation from the European College of Veterinary Internal Medicine as a recognised residency training centre. We believe strongly that our work should not simply be to expedite the diagnosis and treatment of complex clinical cases without similar effort being expended on continuing education, both of ourselves and others, and in training the specialists of the future.

