

# UNDERSTANDING DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING

## ULTRASOUND, X-RAY, CT, OR MRI?







Diagnostic imaging is an essential tool in veterinary medicine, helping your vet get a clearer picture of what's happening inside your pet's body. It supports accurate diagnosis and helps determine the best course of treatment.

Depending on your pet's condition, your vet may recommend one or more of the following:

Ultrasound, X-ray (radiographs), CT (Computed Tomography), or MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging). Each has unique benefits and limitations, and your vet will choose the most appropriate method for your pet's specific needs.

## ULTRASOUND

Ultrasound is a medical imaging technique that utilises high-frequency sound waves to produce images of internal body structures.

-  Used to assess the size, shape and structure of certain organs such as the liver, kidneys and heart.
-  Often performed under light sedation as the patient needs to be still. This is particularly important as some structures observed are of small size.
-  Uses sound waves (mechanical waves, which are not radiation), a safe and non-invasive option.
-  Widely available at many general practices but very operator-dependent.
-  More affordable than CT or MRI.
-  Common uses: Abdominal scans, heart imaging (echocardiography), and pregnancy checks.

