



165 Ford Evans, NE
Leesburg, VA 20176
PHONE 703.669.5544
FAX 703.852.3466

Contents of the Client Information Packet

- Welcome Letter from PetsDx Veterinary Imaging
- Client Information Form/ Medical Questionnaire
- Pet Owner Information and Instructions
- Directions to Our Facility



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Dear Owner,

I look forward to meeting you and your pet on the day of the procedure. These times are approximate due to emergencies that may arise. Our first priority must be current cases in the scanner. I've enclosed a general information form and medical questionnaire for you to complete and bring with you to your appointment. I've also enclosed some basic information about MRI and CT for pets as well as driving directions and our payment policy.

Please do not feed your pet after 10 p.m. on the day before the procedure. Give all medication in morning as usual with as little food as possible. The morning of the appointment, I will have you complete a brief questionnaire about Your pet and sign a consent form. I'll then spend fifteen to twenty minutes discussing the procedure in detail and answering any questions you may have. After we've spoken, I'll give Your pet a mild sedative to help calm him. We'll then place an intravenous catheter and anesthetize Your pet with some of the same anesthetics being used in human medicine. Your pet will be anesthetized about one to one and a half hours for the MRI or CT. Once the study is completed, he will recover in a warm, well – padded area. Once Your pet is standing and able to walk, you will be able to take him home. Before you leave, we will again take fifteen to twenty minutes to talk with you about caring for Your pet following anesthesia.

Test results will be forwarded to your family veterinarian's office within twenty four to forty eight hours. I'll have you follow up through their office to discuss the findings.

Again, I look forward to meeting you and am very excited about being able to provide you this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Matthew J. Uzzle, DVM



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PET OWNER INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

What is CT and what is MRI? CT stands for computed tomography and MRI stands for magnetic resonance imaging. They are both advanced imaging modalities that have been safely used in human medicine for the last three decades. Both CT and MRI are non – invasive and are not painful.

How does a CT work? Most people know that an X-ray is a two-dimensional picture created from ionizing radiation. A CT scan is a three-dimensional image of an object formed from a series of two dimensional X-rays. CT uses a rotating X-ray tube to take “slices” through an object, adding the dimension of depth.

How does an MRI work? Unlike X-rays and CT, MRI does not use ionizing radiation. Instead, it uses magnetic fields and pulses of radio waves to temporarily and harmlessly energize molecules in your pet’s body. As they relax, these energized molecules give off a signal that’s made into an image. Like CT, MRI is also three-dimensional as it takes “slices” through an object, adding the dimension of depth.

Why has an MRI or CT been recommended for my pet? MRI and CT are powerful imaging modalities. They have different applications, although there is some overlap. We rely on our knowledge to make an informed decision as to which imaging technique to use based on the patient’s signalment (breed, sex, age), patient history, region to be imaged, discussion with the referring veterinarian, and, if needed, consultation with a radiologist or other specialist. A general rule of thumb is that MRI is an excellent imaging modality for soft tissue structures and CT

is more useful for imaging bone. We can image areas such as the sinus cavities, skull, brain, spinal cord, intervertebral disks, abdominal organs, lungs, muscles, nerves, tendons, ligaments, and joints with much more detail than the average X-ray. The results of the MRI or CT will help your veterinarian make a definitive diagnosis and offer you the best options for treating your pet.

How do I schedule an MRI or CT? Your veterinarian must contact us to arrange a referral. Once a referral has been arranged, you may then schedule an appointment directly with us. Appointments are scheduled in the morning Monday through Friday. If your pet is to have a MRI or CT, we will have you leave him or her with us for the day. We prefer to have patients picked up by 4:30 p.m., but if it is more convenient for you to leave your pet after hours or overnight, arrangements can be made to board them at The Life Centre for an additional fee. If needed, you may wait during the imaging study. Please notify the receptionist when scheduling the appointment if you are planning to wait.

How should I prepare my pet for the MRI or CT? Pets having an MRI or CT must be anesthetized so that they remain still for the exam. In preparation for general anesthesia, they should not eat after 10 p.m. the night before the exam. It is all right for them to have water available until two hours prior to their scheduled appointment time. Ask your veterinarian for instructions if your pet is on any medications.

What should I bring to the appointment? We will ask your family veterinarian to fax us a copy of the medical record so that you do not need to be responsible for that. However, if your family veterinarian has any X-rays that they are unable to mail to us in time for the appointment, we ask that you please bring these with you.

What should I expect during the MRI or CT? Your pet will be anesthetized between one and one and a half hours for the imaging study. Before any anesthesia is given, we will make sure that your pet is healthy enough to undergo anesthesia. We will place an intravenous catheter and your pet will get fluids

throughout the procedure. All vital signs will be carefully monitored during and after the anesthesia.

What happens to my pet after the MRI or CT? After the MRI or CT, your pet may be disoriented and off-balance for about half an hour. We will watch your pet closely until it has recovered. Once your pet is standing and able to move around safely, we will send it home with you. Your pet may urinate a large amount after it gets home because of the fluids given during the anesthesia. Once home, it will be important to keep your pet away from stairs and furniture until it has fully recovered so that your pet does not hurt itself. Your pet should be back to normal the morning following the scan.

How do we proceed after the MRI or CT? After the MRI or CT, the images will be read by a highly qualified board – certified veterinary radiologist. Results of the MRI or CT will be returned to your family veterinarian's office within 48 hours after the appointment.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions or concerns regarding the procedure. Our number is 412.486.4800.



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Directions to PetsDx at The Life Centre (TLC)

From points North of Leesburg (Frederick MD, Harrisburg PA):

- 1) Take Route 15 South, bear left on Route 15 South Bypass towards Warrenton, Winchester, and Alexandria (Do Not take Route 15 Business to Leesburg).
- 2) Go through flashing yellow light, and at your second traffic light make a right onto Edwards Ferry Rd.
- 3) Turn left at second light which is Heritage Way. TLC is at the end of Heritage Way.

From Gaithersburg/Rockville/Germantown using White's Ferry:

- 1) Take Route 28 West (Darnestown Rd.), Bear left onto Route 107 (Whites Ferry Rd.).
- 2) Take Whites Ferry across the Potomac River (**Ferry may be closed in the winter, call 301-349-5200 for up to date conditions**). **The cost to ride the Ferry is \$3.**
- 3) Once across ferry, stay on Whites Ferry Rd. until you come to your first traffic light. This is Route 15.
- 4) Make a left onto Route 15 South and follow directions above (From points north of Leesburg).

From points South of Leesburg (Middleburg/Haymarket):

- 1) Take Route 15 North, bear right onto combined Route 7 East & 15 North (Leesburg Bypass) towards Alexandria and Frederick MD (Do Not take Route 15 Business into Leesburg).
- 2) Staying in your left lane, continue on Route 15 North toward Frederick MD and pass exits for Route 7 East and Route 7 Business/Fort Evans Rd. You will see and pass TLC on your left, ignore the signs for Fort Evans Rd and pass through the light at Fort Evans Rd. Your next light will be Edwards Ferry Rd.
- 3) Make a left onto Edwards Ferry Rd. at the light.
- 4) Turn left at second light which is Heritage Way. TLC is at the end of Heritage Way.

From points East of Leesburg (Washington D.C./495 beltway):

Option 1

- 1) Take Route 267 (Dulles Tollroad/Greenway), Take exit 1B onto combined Route 7 East & 15 North.
- 2) Staying in your left lane, continue on Route 15 North toward Frederick MD and pass exits for Route 7 East and Route 7 Business/Fort Evans Rd. You will see and pass TLC on your left, ignore the signs for Fort Evans Rd and pass through the light at Fort Evans Rd. Your next light will be Edwards Ferry Rd.
- 3) Make a left onto Edwards Ferry Rd. at the light.
- 4) Turn left at second light which is Heritage Way. TLC is at the end of Heritage Way.

Option 2

- 1) Take Route 7 west towards Leesburg, continue on Route 7 business (East Market street).
- 2) Cross over top of Route 15.
- 3) At your first light make a right onto Fort Evans Rd. There is a CVS pharmacy on the corner
- 4) TLC will be at the end of Fort Evans Rd on the right.

From points West of Leesburg (Winchester/Purcellville):

- 1) Take Route 7 East towards Leesburg (Do not exit onto Route 7 Business)
- 2) Route 7 East will become combined Route 7 East & Route 15 North.
- 3) Staying in your left lane, continue on Route 15 North toward Frederick MD and pass exits for Route 7 East and Route 7 Business/Fort Evans Rd. You will see and pass TLC on your left, ignore the signs for Fort Evans Rd and pass through the light at Fort

Evans Rd. Your next light will be Edwards Ferry Rd.

4) Make a left onto Edwards Ferry Rd. at the light.

5) Turn left at second light which is Heritage Way. TLC is at the end of Heritage Way.