



165 Fort Evans Rd. NE  
Leesburg, VA 20176  
Phone (703) 669-5544  
Fax (703) 669-5959

## **Contents of the Veterinary Referral Package**

- Introductory Letter from PetsDx Veterinary Imaging
- MRI and CT Referral Form
- Information on Required Testing for Patients Having an Advanced Imaging Study
- Information on Magnetic Resonance Imaging and Computed Tomography to Distribute to Clients
- Our Payment Policy
- Information for Us about You
- Web Page Information
- Directions to PetsDx at The Life Centre



165 Fort Evans Rd. NE  
Leesburg, VA 20176  
Phone (703) 669-5544  
Fax (703) 669-5959

Pet owners place their trust in us to provide the best care for their pets. As clients demand higher levels of care for their pets, safer and more advanced technologies such as magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and computed tomography (CT) for pets, as well as access to board certified veterinary specialists, will become the standard of care in veterinary medicine.

**Who are we?** PetsDx is a group of energetic individuals committed to providing you, your clients, and their pets state-of-the-art veterinary diagnostic imaging services. Our Leesburg facility is located within The Life Centre (TLC) and is fully staffed with an experienced MR technologist, a skilled veterinarian, and a licensed veterinary technician. A board certified veterinary radiologist, specially trained in MRI, reads all of our images. We are very excited about our relationship with TLC and the many other specialty services located within TLC which include: Neurology, Surgery, Cardiology, Internal Medicine, Ophthalmology, and Critical Care. This relationship is mutually beneficial as we can provide imaging studies on cases that these services need. In addition, if we detect an abnormality on a patient referred directly to us, we can call you and discuss our findings. After our discussion and with your permission, we can make arrangements to have your patient evaluated by a boarded specialist without having to send your patient and it's owner elsewhere.

**Why use PetsDx?** At PetsDx we focus solely on imaging veterinary patients with MRI and CT. This specialized service allows us to provide the answers you need while you spend your time on your business. Our company has extensive experience in veterinary medicine and magnetic resonance imaging and computed tomography. At PetsDx we collectively have over 50 years of experience in advanced imaging. You can rest assured that you are getting only the best when you refer to PetsDx.

**What to expect when using PetsDx.** We see cases on a referral basis only. In most cases, a patient can be scheduled for an MRI or CT within a day or two. Because we focus

solely on MRI and CT, you retain the business generated by performing a detailed case work-up before your client and patient meet with us. On the day of the imaging study, clients may wait or, if more convenient, they may drop their pet off for the day. All clients will have their questions answered by the veterinarian before proceeding and every patient will have a thorough physical completed before any anesthesia is given. The imaging study will take from one to one and a half hours. Once fully recovered from anesthesia, your patient will be discharged to its owner. We understand your time is very valuable, so we will communicate test results to you typically within 24 to 48 hours of the study so that you can inform your clients as rapidly as possible. For a small additional fee, a stat read can be performed and the results can be communicated to you within an hour.

We at PetsDx are very excited about the opportunity to work together with you. We believe we can offer you, pet owners, and their pets a safe, powerful imaging modality and consultation service in a convenient location for a reasonable cost. We will be accepting referrals after the first of the year and would be happy to meet with you and give you a tour of the facility once construction has been completed. We are always available to answer any questions you may have.

Matthew J. Uzzle, DVM  
Medical Director / Leesburg, VA

Leesburg Office  
 165 Ford Evans, NE  
 Leesburg, VA 20176  
 Phone 703.669.5544  
 Fax 703.669.5959



Pittsburgh Office  
 1050 Saxonburg Boulevard  
 Glenshaw, PA 15116  
 Phone 412.486.4800  
 Fax 412.774.1999

## MRI/CT Referral Form

Please complete the following and fax together with all necessary paperwork to your local imaging center.

### General Information

- It is very important to note that your patient will be anesthetized for the MRI/CT. Please advise your clients as to the risks of anesthesia, as well as any special instructions regarding medications to be given before the MRI/CT.
- We are not equipped to handle laboratory testing or imaging other than MRI/CT. Therefore, all required testing must be completed by you and results furnished prior to our anesthetizing your patient. A list of required tests has been provided. Do not hesitate to contact us should you have any specific questions.
- We strongly recommend that a radiograph of the area to be imaged is obtained before anesthetizing your patient as metallic objects such as bullets or BBs near the area of interest can prevent us from getting a diagnostic exam.
- As we are an outpatient facility only, patients must be stabilized before we can proceed with an MRI/CT.

### Referring Veterinarian Information

Clinic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Veterinarian #1 \_\_\_\_\_ Veterinarian #2 \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Clinic Number \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number \_\_\_\_\_

### Client and Patient Information

Client's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Patient Name \_\_\_\_\_ Species \_\_\_\_\_ Breed \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Weight \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_

### Case History and Medical Information

Please indicate patient history including past and current medical problem(s), results of all diagnostic testing, any medication(s) prescribed, and response to medication(s), if any. Please include any sensitivity to anesthesia or any known allergies. Attach patient history.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

<b>TYPE OF STUDY: MRI or CT</b> (please circle)		<b>AREA TO BE IMAGED</b> (Please check/circle)		
<b>SPINE</b>	<b>BRAIN</b>	<b>HEAD/NECK</b>	<b>LIMB/JOINTS</b>	<b>SOFT TISSUE</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> C1-T2	<input type="checkbox"/> Brain	<input type="checkbox"/> Nasal Cavity	<input type="checkbox"/> Brachial Plexus (L / R )	<input type="checkbox"/> Abdomen
<input type="checkbox"/> T3-L3		<input type="checkbox"/> Osseous Bullae	<input type="checkbox"/> Lumbosacral Plexus	<input type="checkbox"/> Chest Wall
<input type="checkbox"/> L4-Sacrum		<input type="checkbox"/> Orbits	<input type="checkbox"/> Stifle (L / R )	<input type="checkbox"/> Lung Tissue/
<input type="checkbox"/> T3-Sacrum		<input type="checkbox"/> Sinus	<input type="checkbox"/> Elbow (L / R )	metastasis
<input type="checkbox"/> C1-Sacrum (double study)		<input type="checkbox"/> Soft Tissue Neck	<input type="checkbox"/> Hip (L / R )	evaluation
			<input type="checkbox"/> Pelvis (L / R )	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Shoulder (L / R )	

**2. SPECIFIC PULSE SEQUENCES REQUESTED** (please check):

Standard  Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Veterinarian Requesting Test \_\_\_\_\_

## Testing Requirements in Preparation for General Anesthesia

Please note that general anesthesia is required for all veterinary patients having an MRI or CT. It is the policy of PetsDx Veterinary Imaging that all patients must have the appropriate testing completed prior to being anesthetized for the scan. The following are minimum requirements based on the age and physical status of your patient.

### Testing Requirements - Patients Less than Five Years of Age

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>REQUIRED TESTS</u>
I or II <sup>a</sup>	PCV, TP, BUN
III <sup>b</sup>	CBC, General Health Profile, Serum Electrolytes, T4, ECG <sup>c</sup>
IV or V <sup>d</sup>	CBC, General Health Profile, Serum Electrolytes, ECG, Chest Radiographs

### Testing Requirements - Patients Over Five Years of Age

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>REQUIRED TESTS</u>
I or II <sup>a</sup>	PCV, Pre – Anesthetic Profile
III <sup>b</sup>	CBC, General Health Profile, Serum Electrolytes, T4, ECG
IV or V <sup>d</sup>	CBC, General Health Profile, Serum Electrolytes, T4, ECG, Chest Radiographs

<sup>a</sup> Testing should be completed within 30 days of the referral

<sup>b</sup> Testing should be completed within 7 days of the referral

<sup>c</sup> If cardiac disease is present

<sup>d</sup> Testing should be completed within 48 hours of the referral

### Classification of Physical Status for Patients Undergoing Anesthesia\*

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>EXAMPLES</u>
I	No organic disease	
II	Mild or moderate systemic disease without functional impairment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Cardiac disease, compensated (no medication)</li> <li>▶ Obesity</li> <li>▶ Orthopedic disease</li> <li>▶ Geriatric</li> <li>▶ Pediatric</li> </ul>
III	Organic disease with definite functional impairment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Anemia, mild</li> <li>▶ Anorexia</li> <li>▶ Cardiac disease, compensated (with medication)</li> <li>▶ Dehydration, mild</li> <li>▶ Fever, mild</li> <li>▶ Neurologic symptoms (Seizures, Vestibular syndrome, Ataxia, Paresis)</li> </ul>
IV	Severe disease that is life - threatening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Anemia, severe</li> <li>▶ Cardiac disease, noncompensated</li> <li>▶ Pulmonary disease</li> <li>▶ Sepsis</li> <li>▶ Shock</li> <li>▶ Renal disease</li> </ul>
V	Moribund patient, not expected to survive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Major trauma</li> <li>▶ Profound shock</li> <li>▶ Multi – organ failure</li> <li>▶ Severe head injury</li> </ul>

\*Adapted from the American Society of Anesthesiologists

**Your patient's well-being is very important to us, and we will not anesthetize your patient without the appropriate testing on file.**



165 Fort Evans Rd. NE  
Leesburg, VA 20176  
Phone (703) 669-5544  
Fax (703) 669-5959

## **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” though 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 TLC 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 two 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.**

**Leesburg Office**

165 Fort Evans Rd NE  
Leesburg, VA 20176  
PHONE 703.669.5544  
FAX 703.669.5959

**Cleveland Office**

15423 Neo Parkway  
Cleveland, OH 44128  
PHONE 216.581.7200  
FAX 216.916.4900



**Pittsburgh Office**

1050 Saxonburg Boulevard  
Glenshaw, PA 15116  
PHONE 412.486.4800  
FAX 412.774.1999

**Visit us on the web @[www.petsdx.com](http://www.petsdx.com)**

The next few weeks will be an exciting time for us with the start up of our new facility here in Leesburg at The Life Centre. Please watch our web site for updates about the Leesburg facility. If you have any questions that you cannot find the answers for on our website, Kim in our Cleveland facility or Marie in our Pittsburgh facility would be happy to speak with you, or they can put you in contact with me.

Sincerely,

Matthew J. Uzzle, DVM  
Medical Director, Leesburg, VA



165 Fort Evans Rd. NE  
Leesburg, VA 20176  
Phone (703) 669-5544  
Fax (703) 669-5959

## Payment Policy

**Please review our payment policy with your clients before referral. MRI and CT are not inexpensive and we do not want your client to have any surprises about the cost of testing. There are two options for payment. We can bill your client directly with the prices listed below. Alternatively, we can bill your hospital the price listed below and you can take care of collecting from the client.**

- The cost of a MRI of one region is \$1050. This is the total price and includes patient care and monitoring, intravenous catheter placement and fluid administration, pre-medications if indicated, anesthetic induction and maintenance on gas anesthesia. The radiologist's reading fee is also included in this amount.
- If a second region is to be scanned, there will be an additional fee of \$525. If you are unsure whether or not a second region will be needed, please do not hesitate to contact us.
- The cost of a CT scan is \$595. This is the total price and includes patient care and monitoring, intravenous catheter placement and fluid administration, pre-medications if indicated, anesthetic induction and maintenance on gas anesthesia. The radiologist's reading fee is also included in this amount.
- Payment for the MRI or CT will be made by the client upon arrival to our facility. We accept cash, personal check, American Express, Discover, Visa, and Mastercard. We also offer CareCredit and accept pet insurance. Currently we are unable to set up payment plans and payment is expected at the time of service.
- Please do not hesitate to call us if you have any questions.



165 Fort Evans Rd. NE  
Leesburg, VA 20176  
Phone (703) 669-5544  
Fax (703) 669-5959

**Help us learn more about you!** PetsDx Veterinary Imaging is a fixed advanced diagnostic imaging center dedicated to providing MRIs and CTs exclusively for veterinary patients. We are in the process of opening an office at The Life Centre (TLC) in Leesburg, VA and will be ready for referrals after January 1, 2008. At PetsDx, we understand that you have a special relationship with your clients. We also understand that a relationship built on honesty, trust, and understanding is critical to our mutual success. When referring patients to us, you can take comfort in knowing that we will work together as a team to advance patient care without interfering with that special relationship you have with your clients.

**Please take a minute to provide us with information about you and your clinic**

Practice Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number \_\_\_\_\_

Practice Owner(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Veterinarians \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Office Manager \_\_\_\_\_

Hours of Operation Monday \_\_\_\_\_ Friday \_\_\_\_\_

Tuesday \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday \_\_\_\_\_

Wednesday \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday \_\_\_\_\_

Thursday \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Hours \_\_\_\_\_

Special Interests \_\_\_\_\_

Comments or Questions \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check one of the following:**

I am interested in a tour of the facility

I am interested in a member of the PetsDx team providing education at my clinic

**Completed forms may be mailed or faxed to us at 412.774.1999. Thank you for taking the time to provide us with this information. We look forward to working together with you!**



## How does the referral process work?

A referral can be made by speaking directly with the staff veterinarian at your local imaging center. Once the referral has been arranged, your clients can schedule an appointment with us directly.

All pertinent information, including medical records and results of recent blood work should be faxed to our office in advance of your client's appointment. X-rays can be brought in by the client on the appointment day, or if you have digital radiography you may e-mail us the X-rays.

The day of the MRI or CT, our staff veterinarian will speak with you personally after the study has been completed to update you on your patient's condition. Billing can be done either directly at our facility (American Express, Care Credit, VISA, MasterCard, Discover, Check) or through your office.