



## Ultrasound Examination

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In keeping with our mission at Macedon Veterinary Care, offering compassionate and high quality pet care, we have added Ultrasound technology to our list of services. Ultrasound is a high tech way of imaging internal organs non-invasively. Ultrasound does not replace x-ray examination, but compliments it's information. Organs and tissues not normally visible on x-ray, such as internal structure of the liver, lymph nodes, and pancreas can be seen with ultrasound.

Cardiac ultrasound, also called an echo- cardiogram or an "echo", can be very useful to make an assessment in cases of heart disease. With ultrasound, the heart chambers, valves, and walls can be evaluated.

During an ultrasound, if an abnormality is found in an organ, often an ultrasound- guided biopsy can be performed.

Usually, no anesthesia is required for ultrasound examination. Most times, the area being examined will need to be clipped to remove hair and expose the skin. For an abdominal ultrasound, the pet should be fasted for 12 hours. The urinary bladder is best visualized if it is full of urine. Therefore, the animal should not be given the opportunity to urinate within 3-6 hours of the study. The doctor may recommend ultrasound examination when any of the following are found in a physical exam:

Heart Murmurs	Coughing
Collapsing Episodes	Anemia
Blood in Urine	Difficulty Urinating
Urine Crystals/Abnormal Cells	
Abdominal Mass or Fluid	
Enlarged Lymph Nodes	Chronic Vomiting
Pregnancy	Reproductive Failures
Antifreeze Exposure	
Elevated Liver/Kidney Function Tests	