



# Your Pet's Initial Consultation Medical Oncology

## Thank you

Thank you for selecting MedVet for your pet's medical oncology consultation. To help you prepare for your pet's consultation, this document provides information on at home preparation as well as what to expect upon arriving at our hospital. Should you have any questions between now and the time of the consultation, please call 513.561.0069.

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### Preparing for the initial consultation

Please do not feed (fast) your pet the morning of your consultation so we are able to perform an abdominal ultrasound, if indicated. This will help ensure our radiologists are able to evaluate the gastrointestinal tract more thoroughly. Fasting is also important so that we can safely administer sedation, should it be necessary.

You may provide water to your pet up until the time of the appointment, and you can give your pet's previously prescribed medications. If necessary, it is ok to give your pet their medication with a very small amount of food or treat.

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### The check in process

Upon arrival, you first check in with the front desk team. They'll notify us of your arrival. While we prepare for the consultation, you will be asked to confirm the client and patient registration information you provided at the time your appointment was initially scheduled.

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### The initial consultation

During your pet's initial consultation, you will meet several members of the Medical Oncology team. This team is comprised of board-certified medical oncologists, credentialed veterinary technicians, and veterinary assistants. This team will work together with you and your primary care veterinarian to provide your pet with the best possible care.

A veterinary technician will review your pet's history with you, asking questions about your pet's general health, suspected or known cancer diagnosis, and past medical history. It is important that we know all current medication and supplements that your pet is taking. Please bring these medications and/or supplements with you so we can confirm dose and frequency.

Once we have reviewed your pet's history, we will bring your pet to the medical oncology treatment area where the medical oncologist will perform a complete physical examination. The specialist will also review your pet's medical record, as provided by your primary veterinarian, so we know about their medical history and any diagnostic findings.

Next, you will meet with the medical oncologist, who will provide information regarding your pet's diagnosis. The medical oncologist will provide recommendations for diagnostic testing and information about the available treatment options.

If you elect to move forward with diagnostics and treatment, we will provide you with a care plan detailing the anticipated cost of treatment.



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## Diagnostic testing

Diagnostic testing such as lab work, fine needle aspirates, radiographs (X-rays), and ultrasound may be recommended to assess your pet's overall health and to stage your pet's cancer. All imaging tests will be performed and interpreted by a board-certified radiologist. We may also recommend consultation with other MedVet departments such as Surgery, Cardiology, and/or Neurology. In most cases, this testing will occur during your initial consultation. Diagnostic work-ups typically take several hours to complete. During your pet's diagnostic testing, you are welcome to wait in our lobby, but you can also leave MedVet and return after testing is completed; the medical oncologist will go over all results with you and answer any further questions you have.

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## Next steps

If you elect to start chemotherapy for your pet, in many cases we can administer your pet's first treatment that day. In some cases, additional diagnostic testing requiring general anesthesia may be recommended for your pet (CT or MRI scans, bone marrow aspirate, biopsy), and this is typically scheduled for a future visit (often the following day or later in the week). Overall, our goal during your pet's initial consultation will be to review your options for treatment and establish a plan going forward.

### Do you have additional questions about veterinary cancer treatments?

Please visit our Medical Oncology Resource Guide:

<https://info.medvetforpets.com/cincinnatiologyresources>

*For more information about what to expect during your pet's initial medical oncology consultation, call MedVet Cincinnati directly at 513.561.0069, or visit [medvet.com](https://medvet.com).*

