



Overnight care of hospitalised pets

In certain circumstances it may be necessary to hospitalise your pet overnight, or for several nights. This is usually to provide the best health care for your pet, but sometimes, e.g. for cats, simply to allow collection of a urine sample overnight.

Hospitalisation allows your pet to rest in a safe, warm, dry and quiet environment with access to food and water, if appropriate, and access to a litter tray for cats. It also allows us to provide continuous intra-venous fluid therapy, when needed, and ensures they get any medication at the required times by our Registered Veterinary Nurses.

We do not have 24-hour supervision for hospitalised pets. Over the years we have hospitalised many pets, some with very serious illnesses and will endeavour to monitor them as closely as we feel is appropriate. There is a vet on duty every night who will assess the in-patients and decide if they need to be checked during the night, and we have a dedicated nurse every weekend who will provide the necessary care during Saturday and Sunday (and Bank Holidays). We also have a remote access web-cam that allows us to monitor your pet from home. At weekends we will contact you, if you wish, with regular updates on the progress of your pet.

In very severe illness there is always the possibility that something may go wrong overnight but thankfully this is very rare and Cedarmount Vets feel that the extra expense and staffing levels required to provide 24-hour supervision is not something we can offer at this time.

There is the option of transferring your pet to our out of hours provider, Vets Now, in Belfast, for constant monitoring. This requires transportation of a potentially very ill pet to the clinic in Belfast, and back to Cedarmount the following morning at 8am, which could cause more stress and have risks associated with the transportation of your pet. If you would like to discuss this option with us please feel free to do so, any of our vets or nurses will be able to give you appropriate advice for the individual case.

We are dedicated to providing the best possible care for your pet and will only advise hospitalisation when we feel it will benefit your pet's recovery or treatment.

Alan & Craig