

# A DEDICATED REFERRAL SERVICE FOR SMALL ANIMALS

in the heart of Staffordshire



 **limetreesvets**  
referrals

# WELCOME TO LIME TREES VETS REFERRALS

**Based in Stoke-on-Trent, Lime Trees Vets Referrals offers a first-class, multidisciplinary referral service for small animals.**

We believe excellence is everything and are determined to deliver outstanding care for pets, their owners and the first opinion practices we work closely with. We make referrals simple.

When referring to Lime Trees Vets Referrals, you can expect excellent communication, an easy referral process and an experienced team who will work with you to provide the best possible care.



**At our state-of-the-art, RCVS accredited veterinary hospital, we accept the following cases:**

- Dermatology
- Diagnostic Imaging
- Internal Medicine
- Orthopaedics
- Soft Tissue Surgery

In addition, we have Vets Now out-of-hours on-site, who provide our patients with 24/7 high level critical care. Our team are always happy to discuss cases and offer free and friendly advice and information.

# OUR SERVICES

We offer a wide range of diagnostic and treatment services for small animals.

Our knowledgeable and friendly team will work closely with you to provide exceptional and timely support for your referral cases.



## Dermatology

Our popular dermatology referral service investigates and treats both acute and chronic dermatoses. Examples of cases and procedures performed are:

- Investigation and management of pruritus, including intradermal skin testing
- Investigation and management of alopecic, crusting, scaling and seborrheic disorders, including biopsy and cytology
- Investigation and management of suspected immune-mediated disease
- Investigation and management of suspected endocrine or systemic disease in collaboration with internal medicine or imaging
- Investigation and management of otitis externa, including video otoscopy, Vetpump® suction and irrigation device, and CT where required





## Diagnostic Imaging

With access to advanced imaging technology, we are committed to providing a quick and accurate diagnosis. Our Diagnostic Imaging service includes:

### CT

Our CT scanner allows us to rapidly produce detailed images which can be used for any part of the body. All cases are reported by a specialist radiologist where required. Examples of cases that would benefit from CT, include:

- Portosystemic shunt diagnosis and full location
- Tumour staging and investigation
- Pre-operative surgical resection planning
- Lameness investigation - especially involving elbows or angular limb deformity
- Nasal and respiratory disease
- Acute spinal disease
- Neurological disease, including suspected neoplasia, seizures, head tilt, where MRI unavailable
- BOAS assessment
- Middle ear assessment
- Adrenal and pancreatic disease, including insulinoma
- Superior or additive to ultrasound in almost all abdominal cases in large breed dogs
- Excellent for radiolucent urethral calculi or cases where there is uncertainty regarding an intestinal foreign body on conventional imaging

## Ultrasonography

Using our high-definition ultrasound and extensive experience we can evaluate and diagnose the following:

- Adrenal, renal, hepatic, splenic, pancreatic, bladder and intestinal disease
- Thyroid, parathyroid and laryngeal assessment
- Location and staging of neoplastic disease including for example, abdominal, thoracic, medial retropharyngeal and caudal cervical lymph nodes
- Ultrasound guided FNA and Trucut biopsies
- Tendon and muscle assessment
- Location of foreign bodies for example, grass seeds in feet, subcutaneous or muscle tissue



## Internal Medicine (Canine/Feline)

With access to an in-house laboratory, flexible and rigid endoscopes (gastroscopy, bronchoscopy, rhinoscopy, cystoscopy and laparoscopy), ultrasonography and CT, our highly qualified team is equipped to deal with complex cases.

### Examples of procedures performed:

- Gastrointestinal radiography, endoscopy, ultrasonography and biopsy
- Bronchoscopy and rhinoscopy, including sampling
- Endoscopic foreign body removal (oesophageal, gastric and airway)
- Chemotherapy
- Thoracic and abdominal ultrasound examination, including minimally invasive biopsy techniques
- Bone marrow aspiration and coagulation tests
- Critical care and pain management including trauma cases
- Investigation into pyrexia of unknown origin
- Diagnosis or management of infectious diseases e.g. FIP
- CT with contrast is utilised in many cases. It is especially useful for both upper and lower airway disease or where contrast radiography would once have been used.

Please refer to the CT section on the previous page.



### Examples of cases seen:

- Unexplained weight loss, vomiting and/or diarrhoea
- Respiratory disease, cough or collapse
- Excess thirst and urination
- Complex hormonal conditions
- Anaemia and blood clotting disorders
- Investigation, staging and treatment of cancers, including chemotherapy
- Urinary tract disorders e.g. persistent/recurrent UTI, incontinence, haematuria
- Hepatic and renal diseases, including portosystemic shunt diagnosis



## Orthopaedics

Our orthopaedic team can perform an extensive range of investigative, surgical and non-surgical orthopaedic procedures.

Examples of orthopaedic cases seen and procedures performed:

- Cruciate ligament rupture (by TTA, TPLO, and lateral suture techniques)
- Patella luxation
- All fracture repairs
- Lameness investigation
- Arthrodesis
- Hip dysplasia treatment and prevention
- Shoulder and elbow conditions, including dysplasia, OCD, muscle, tendon and ligament disease
- Achilles tendon injury
- Spinal disease investigation
- Angular limb deformities
- Joint luxations



## Soft Tissue

The surgical team at Lime Trees Vet Referrals has considerable experience in all aspects of small animal surgery. With excellent facilities and equipment, we can accept cases for:

- Abdominal surgery including urinary incontinence investigation and treatment, gastric dilation and volvulus (GDV) treatment and prevention, pyloric stenosis correction, abdominal tumour treatment, kidney disease, prostate disease, gastrointestinal disease and liver disease
- Skin and wound reconstruction for traumatic and cancer cases
- Oral cancer removal and reconstruction
- Perineal hernia repair
- Laryngeal paralysis correction via tieback
- BOAS, including overlong soft palate correction and stenotic nares correction
- Hard and soft palate reconstruction
- Entropion/Ectropion surgery
- Distichiasis correction
- Ear surgery e.g. TECA/LBO, Lateral wall resections and vertical canal ablations
- Screw tail correction
- Cherry eye correction
- Anal saccullectomy
- Rectal surgery and neoplasia treatment
- Chest surgery, including pericardial strips, pyothorax management, vascular ring anomalies such as PRAA, PDA, oesophageal foreign body removal (surgical and endoscopic), diaphragmatic herniation and lung lobectomy

# REFERRING A CASE

We pride ourselves on our simple five step referral process:

## 1. Visit our online referral form

Visit [www.limetreesvets.co.uk/referrals](http://www.limetreesvets.co.uk/referrals) and complete our online referral form. Alternatively, IVC Evidensia practices can refer via the 'Referral' button in Merlin.

## 2. We contact your client

Once we have received your referral form, we will contact your client to arrange an appointment. Our client care team will liaise with yours to confirm the appointment and to ensure we have the correct contact information and all relevant history, bloods and imaging.

## 3. We treat the patient

We will then see your patient and client for a one-hour consultation. Together, we will discuss a plan to move forward and treat the pet before discharging back to your care.

## 4. You will receive a report

After we discharge the patient, we will send you a report of our investigations and any findings.

## 5. We are always available for advice

Our support doesn't finish when the patient is discharged. We are happy for you to call at any time for advice on patients we have or have not seen.



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