



Puppy & Kitten Heart Murmur Clinic

Heart murmurs in puppies and kittens are very common. Most of the time they are innocent murmurs, however, sometimes they are associated with serious heart disease.

We recommend a heart scan (ultrasound examination of the heart) for any puppy with a murmur grade of 3/6 or louder or a kitten with a murmur. Left undiagnosed and untreated, heart disease can lead to heart failure, collapse episodes or even sudden death. The earlier in life a heart problem is diagnosed, the better chance the puppy has for successful treatment, or even cure, is higher the earlier a congenital heart problem is addressed.

Cost
£300

Why choose SCVS?

SCVS has one of the largest and most experienced cardiology teams in the UK. If a heart problem is diagnosed, then we will be able to offer the best treatment possible. Furthermore, if a serious heart problem is identified that requires keyhole surgery, then we discount the cost of the scan from the surgery fees.

Suitable patients

- Puppies up to an age of 12 months
- Kittens with murmurs
- No clinical signs, other than heart murmur on auscultation.

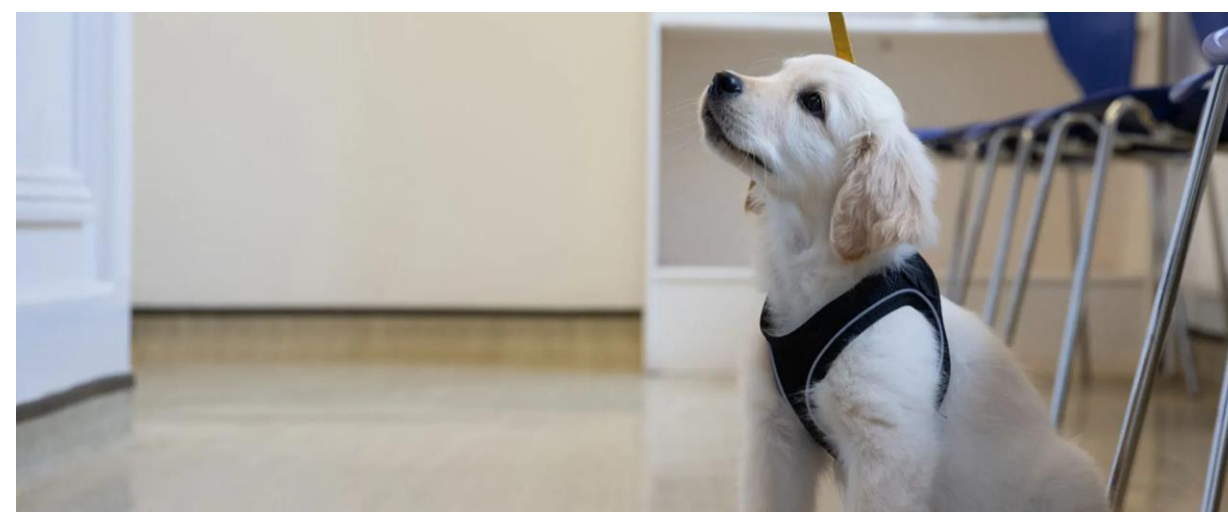
What does it involve?

Most congenital heart disease can be diagnosed echocardiographically. Sedation is usually not required.

How is the puppy/kitten heart murmur clinic different from a normal cardiology referral?

Referral for a specialist opinion can be expensive and difficult to afford in the current economic climate.

We would still like to help as many puppies as possible and have therefore introduced the puppy/kitten heart murmur clinic which offers a complete heart scan at a more affordable cost. By accepting only puppies without any clinical problems in this clinic, there is no need for a specific consultation, which allows us to offer this service at lower cost. If abnormalities are found, then we will of course discuss them with the owners in detail.



How do I refer for the heart murmur clinic?

To refer a patient, please scan the QR code (left), or visit our website scvetspecialists.co.uk and complete our online form.

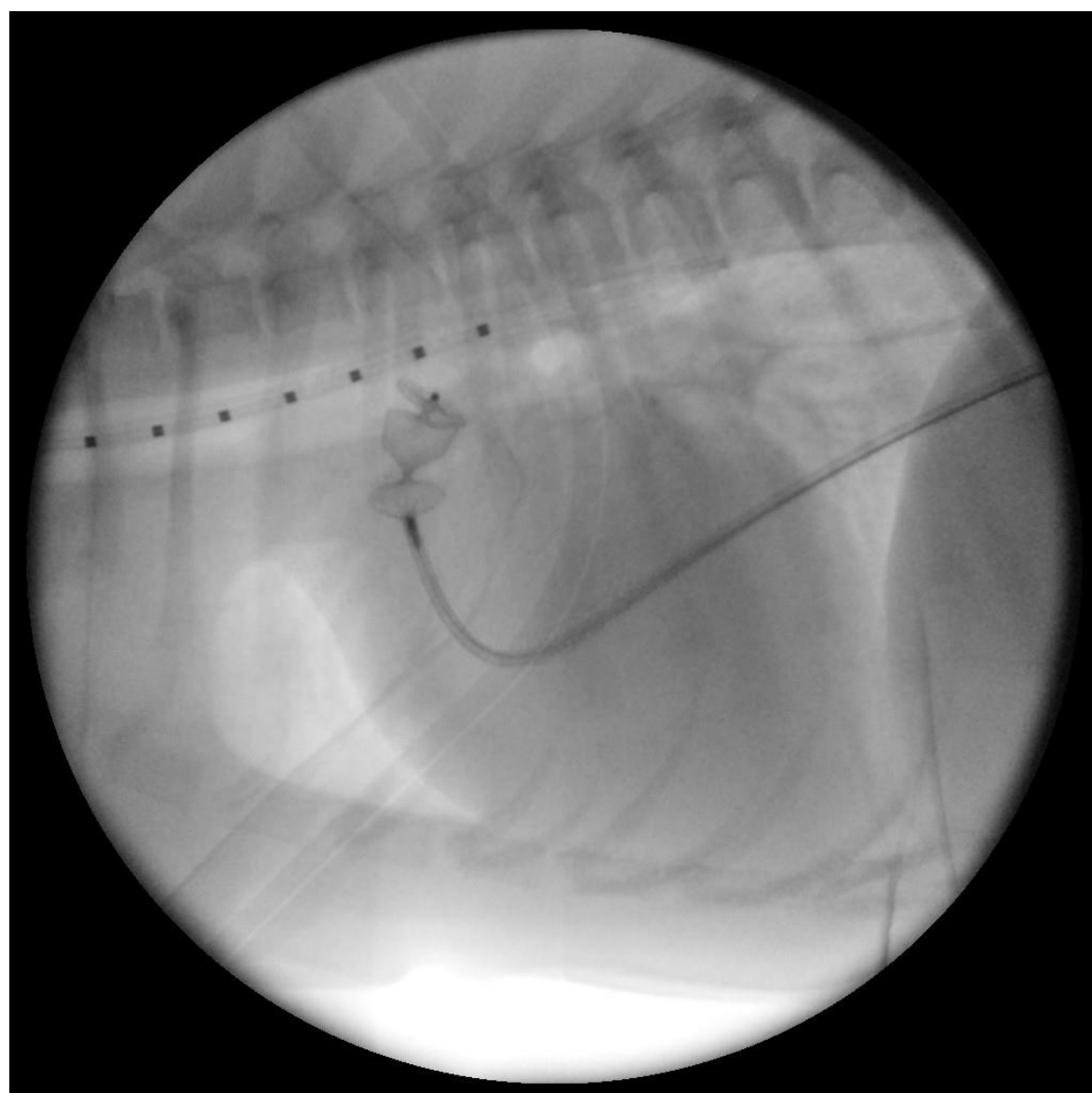


Minimally Invasive Heart Surgery

PDA closure and Pulmonic are the most common congenital cardiac abnormalities which benefit from minimal invasive cardiac intervention.

PDA

The PDA is a persistent connection between Aorta and Pulmonary Artery which has not closed after birth. Untreated, it will result in left sided heart failure in many patients.

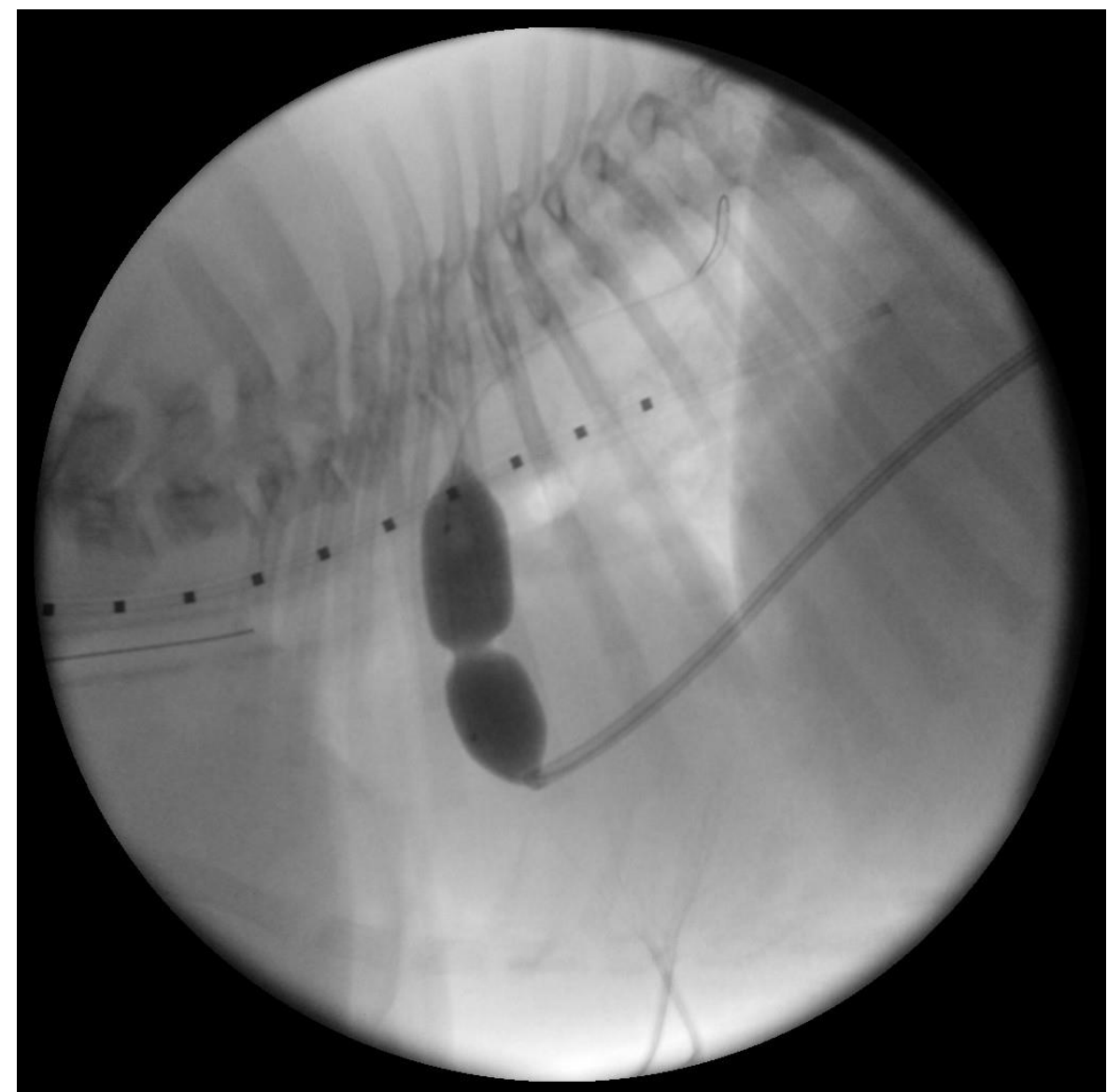


The team at SCVS has pioneered a novel keyhole method for PDA closure in the UK, which allows us to close PDAs in patients as small as 1kg and preserve the femoral artery, which is not possible with the more routinely used ACDO technique.

The recovery time is very short and patients usually can be discharged the following day.

Pulmonic Stenosis

Patients with marked pulmonic stenosis usually present with a systolic heart murmur. Untreated, the pressure in the right ventricle can be very high, which results in myocardial damage and subsequently arrhythmias and/or heart failure. Patients will develop syncope, exercise intolerance and/or ascites over time or they can suffer from sudden cardiac death.



Performing a balloon valvuloplasty will dramatically improve the function of the abnormal valve, improving life expectancy and alleviating clinical signs. At SCVS, we are using exclusively high quality high pressure balloons for these procedures to achieve the best possible outcome.