

# Preparing for your Pet's Cardiology Appointment



www.VetcardioHub.com

Baseline SRR:  breaths/min

Current medications & doses

<input type="text"/>	Dose: <input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	Dose: <input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	Dose: <input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	Dose: <input type="text"/>

## 1. Before You Leave Home

- Bring your pet's full medication list (names, doses, frequency).
- Pack all current medication bottles if you're unsure about any details.
- If fasting was advised, ensure your pet has not eaten.
- Bring recent home monitoring notes (breathing rate, appetite, energy, weight, app data).

## 2. What to Bring to the Appointment

- Insurance details or documentation.
- Any referral notes or test results your vet provided.
- Previous heart scans, X-rays, ECGs, or blood tests.
- A favourite treat or comfort item to keep your pet relaxed.

## 3. What to Expect During the Visit

- A complete run through of your pet's medical history.
- Discussion of your pet's symptoms and home monitoring.
- A full clinical examination.
- An echocardiogram (heart ultrasound).
  - This usually involves clipping a small amount of hair either side of the heart.
  - Sometimes mild sedation might be needed
- Possibly a blood pressure check, ECG, or X-ray.
- If they need a 24-hour ECG they will go home wearing a jacket

## 4. Questions You May Want to Ask

- What stage of heart disease does my pet have?
- What medications are recommended and why?
- What should I monitor at home that may indicate deterioration?
- How often should follow-up appointments occur?

## 5. After the Appointment

- Confirm you understand all medication changes before leaving.
- Ask for written instructions if needed.
- Book the recommended follow-up appointment.
- Continue breathing-rate monitoring and general wellbeing checks.

## ! Contact your vet or emergency service if you notice any of the following:

- SRR consistently >30
- SRR ↑ >20% from baseline for >2 days
- Marked breathing effort
- Open-mouth breathing or panting at rest
- Collapse / fainting
- Dramatic reduction in activity
- Not eating for >24 hours
- Persistent cough worsening rapidly

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