



## CT (computed tomography) Scanning at VICSD

Computed tomography (also called a CT or CAT scan) is a diagnostic imaging procedure that uses a combination of x-rays and computer technology to produce cross-sectional images (often called slices), both horizontally and vertically, through the body. A CT scan shows detailed images of any part of the body, including the bones, muscles, fat, and organs. CT scans are much more detailed than general x-rays and allow us to visualize diseases that are not amenable to imaging with other modalities such as x-rays or ultrasound.

Please do not feed your pet after 10PM the night before the CT study is performed at VICSD. Water is allowed. Although computed tomography is a noninvasive procedure, CT scanning requires that the patient must remain perfectly still during the study. Therefore, general anesthesia is a requirement for CT scanning in animals.

Our CT scanner is a state of the art "helical" CT scanner that significantly decreases the imaging time to provide the safest and most pleasant experience for our patients. We are also able to generate 3D images of our patient's studies.

When you return to pick up your pet, you will be given preliminary findings from the study. One of our technicians will discuss the images from the CT scan with you and one of our doctors will contact your veterinarian. A written report and the images from the study will also be sent your veterinarian.