

Outpatient Ultrasound (OPUS) Guidelines for Primary DVM

We are able to facilitate OPUS on select days. Please contact us to discuss availability.

Please send the completed request form and relevant results (lab work, radiology and ultrasound reports, cytology reports, etc.). Send at least one set of prior lab work for baseline comparison. There is no need to email x-rays.

This is not a consult. Previous medical records are not reviewed thoroughly, the pet is not examined and vitals/weight are not taken.

Considerations prior to electing OPUS

OPUS is not appropriate for:

- fractious pets that cannot be safely auscultated prior to sedation
- unstable patients
- patients that require additional testing, such as ultrasound guided aspirates, abdominocentesis, etc.

Communication of OPUS results:

- The OPUS report will be emailed to you the day the OPUS is performed.
- The OPUS results are NOT provided to the client. We rely on you to communicate the results to them.

Please inform your clients what to expect the day of the OPUS:

- A team member will meet the client in the reception area and review the main presenting complaint.
- We will confirm that their pet has been fasting (at least 10 hours without food; they can have water).
- We expect their pet to arrive with a full bladder (no walks or using litter boxes for three hours prior to drop-off).
- Their pet will be staying with us for a few hours (depending on our case load) and will likely receive oral sedation. Injectable sedation will be used as needed.
- We will contact the client when their pet is ready to go home.