

Chiari / Syringomyelia MRI screening

Stone Lion Veterinary Centre, Goddard Veterinary Group, 41 High Street, Wimbledon, SW19

What is MRI?

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) makes a picture of the water molecules in the body. It is excellent way of looking at the central nervous system which does not image well using traditional x-ray technology. The pictures are presented as a series of “slices”; analogous to a sliced loaf of bread

Is an anaesthetic necessary?

The head and neck must be absolutely motionless during the procedure and this can only be achieved with heavy sedation or light anaesthesia. At Stone Lion Veterinary Centre we prefer a light anaesthesia as we can be more confident that the dog receives enough oxygen.

How do I arrange a Chiari / SM screen at Stone Lion Veterinary Centre.

The scans may be booked by contacting the reception team on 020 8946 4228. They will book the appointment and send you any additional information

Any dogs with a pre-existing medical condition making anaesthesia undesirable will not be scanned. To avoid a wasted journey, it is the responsibility of the owner to ensure that the dog has been deemed healthy by their own veterinary surgeon prior to booking the scan. You will be asked to sign a consent form pertaining to this.

What is the cost?

The cost per dog will be £292.58 (inc VAT).

A deposit of £150 is required at the time of booking. The deposit is not refunded if **less than 24 hours notice** of cancellation is given

What documentation etc is required

The dog must have permanent identification i.e. microchip or tattoo. A microchip can be implanted at the time of the MRI scan

Kennel club registration documentation is required (if dog is Kennel Club registered)

To save time the [admission form](#) can filled out in advance

What happens on the day?

Your pet will be admitted by the SLVC nursing team.

All dogs will be examined by a veterinary surgeon prior to anaesthesia. If there is any reason that precludes the dog from anaesthesia then you will be advised and the scan cancelled.

After admission the dog has a sedative. This reduces anxiety and the amount of anaesthetic required

The MRI scan takes 30-60 minutes. The dog is discharged when fully recovered from the anaesthetic. The whole procedure takes ~ 2 hours **PER DOG**. You should however allow 3 hours.

When do I hear the results?

You will be posted a report within 1 week of the procedure. To produce a report proof of ownership and the dog's pedigree name with registration must be provided and the dog must have permanent identification.

A CD copy of the MRI images will be included (requires DICOM software – details of how to obtain a downloadable version will be provided).

Other considerations

The CKCS Chiari/SM MRI scheme is low cost budget scheme designed to be an economical screening test for breeders. It is not intended as diagnostic service for neurologically unwell dogs. As such:

- The scan is of a limited area only and a limited (usually 3) number of views are obtained
- There will be no consultation with Clare Rusbridge or other veterinary surgeon to discuss the procedure or the results. If you desire this contact then you may book a consultation at the usual clinic times and cost.