

What to expect

ONCOLOGY



52 Campus Drive, Saskatoon SK S7N 5B4

Small Animal Clinic | **Large Animal Clinic**
306-966-7126 | 306-966-7178

About the VMC

Welcome to the WCV Veterinary Medical Centre (VMC), the veterinary referral centre for all of Western Canada and the teaching hospital for future veterinarians and veterinary specialists.

Our clinical team includes board-certified veterinary specialists, clinical associates and registered veterinary technologists, as well as veterinary specialists in training (residents), clinical interns and senior veterinary students. We look forward to caring for your pet and meeting you in person.

Before Your Visit

To prepare for your visit to the VMC, please visit us online:

vmc.usask.ca/about/new-client.php

You will find more information about our location, parking, hours of operation and the Small Animal Clinic reception area.

What to Expect

While the WCV Veterinary Medical Centre (VMC) shares many similarities to other veterinary hospitals, there are some differences that may have an impact on your appointment.

- The VMC is a teaching hospital for WCV veterinary students and for students enrolled in the veterinary technology program at the Saskatchewan Polytechnic. Teaching does take additional time, but the VMC clinical team members work hard to provide prompt, efficient service within a teaching environment.
- Students participate in most aspects of examining and treating our patients under the immediate supervision of licensed veterinarians and board-certified veterinary specialists. While teaching is essential to our facility, the well being of our patients is the highest priority for VMC clinical teams.
- We are the referral centre for all western Canadian veterinarians. Many of our cases are complex: we often need to order additional diagnostic testing or consult with others about diagnoses and treatment plans for patients. These activities can take more time, and in some cases, you may need to leave your animal at the VMC for several hours or longer.

General Steps

Here's a general overview of your pet's visit to the VMC:

- A senior veterinary student will meet you at the Small Animal Clinic reception and bring you and your pet to the veterinary oncology examination room.
- Please be prepared for a longer visit than a normal routine checkup. The veterinary student will ask questions about your pet's medical history and then perform an initial physical assessment of your pet.
- You and your pet will be left alone in the examination room for a short period of time while the veterinary student discusses your pet's health issues with the supervising veterinary medical oncologist. The oncologist and the veterinary student will join you in the room and discuss your pet's health concerns.



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www.usask.ca/vmc

Payment

If your animal is not hospitalized, the WCVM Veterinary Medical Centre requires full payment at the time of service.

If your animal is hospitalized, half of the estimated cost is due prior to services being provided. Final payment is due at the time of discharge.

Occasionally, the hospital will mail statements to you after discharge for additional tests that were approved by you and for charges not included on the initial invoice at discharge.

The WCVM Veterinary Medical Centre accepts the following payment methods:

- cash
- credit card (Visa and MasterCard)
- debit card (Interac)

Personal cheques are not accepted.

If you have questions about payment, call the administration office at 306-966-7103, or visit vmc.usask.ca/about/payment.php.

For more information

Small Animal Clinic
306-966-7126
vmccorrespond@usask.ca

General Steps, continued . . .

- Many cancer patients are initially referred to a medical oncologist who performs the initial diagnostics and staging. Once the diagnosis of cancer is reached, the team will discuss treatment options with you. Depending on the tumour type, location and stage of disease, the oncologist may recommend one treatment or a combination of treatments. The team will provide an estimate of costs for each of the recommended procedures.
- The recommended treatment plan for your pet may include one or more of the following:
 - surgery
 - chemotherapy
 - radiation therapy

Treatment is customized to the individual pet. The oncology team is here to provide all options to you, but ultimately you make the final decision as to what is best for your pet.

For more information about each of the treatment options, please visit usask.ca/vmc/small-animal/ and from the **Other Specialties** drop down menu, click on **Oncology**.

- Once our evaluation is complete, we will write a summary of our findings and recommendations and discuss them with you before you leave. If your regular veterinarian has referred your pet to the WCVM Small Animal Clinic, a copy of the summary will be sent to the referring practitioner.
- We realize your time is valuable. We will do our best to address your pet's health issues in a timely fashion and to accommodate your schedule. If you need to leave, we will send you a more complete summary by email the next day or when all of the test results have been collected. We can also make arrangements to call you or to send the summary to you by regular mail.