

What to expect

NUTRITION



52 Campus Drive, Saskatoon SK S7N 5B4

Small Animal Clinic
306-966-7126

Large Animal Clinic
306-966-7178

About the VMC

Welcome to the WCVM 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 animal 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 finding our location, parking, hours of operation and the Small Animal Clinic reception area.

What to Expect

While the WCVM 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 WCVM veterinary students and for students enrolled in the veterinary technology program at the Saskatchewan Polytechnic. Please note that teaching takes additional time. Students participate in all 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.
- Given the complexity of some cases, we may need to order additional diagnostic tests or consult with others about diagnoses and treatment plans for patients. If this is the case, we will arrange an appointment for your animal to return for further testing.

General Steps

Please note: before your visit, we will ask you to complete a diet history form and return it to the VMC so we can evaluate your pet's diet in advance and use the information during your appointment.

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

- A senior veterinary student or veterinary technician will meet you at the Small Animal Clinic reception and take you and your pet to an examination room. The clinical team member will take a medical history and perform a physical exam. If your pet is nervous, we try to minimize stress and may only perform one physical exam while the specialist is present. Any follow up questions will also be asked during this time. Please bring any food, treats, medication and supplement packages with you. As an alternative, photos of the products' packaging (front and back) would also be helpful.
- Appointments typically last one to two hours, depending on the complexity of the case.



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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

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vmccorrespond@usask.ca

General Steps, continued . . .

- Once all the information is obtained, you and your pet will be left alone in the exam room for a short period of time while the students, veterinary technicians and nutrition specialist discuss your pet's needs and therapy plan.
- Once team members return to the exam room, the clinician will discuss your pet's needs, answer any questions or concerns, and then give recommendations.
- Any diagnostic procedures — such as blood tests — are typically performed before the appointment. But if additional tests are required, we may perform them before you and your patient leave the VMC.
- Once the appointment is complete, the clinician will write a summary of the team's findings and recommendations and discuss them with you before you leave. We usually send a complete written discharge to you within one week of the appointment. We will send you home with diet options (if available) or we will order these products for you. If your regular veterinarian has referred your pet to the WCVM Small Animal Clinic, a copy of the summary will also be sent to the referring practitioner.
- For more complex cases where home-cooked diets need to be formulated, please allow for more time before receiving the official discharge form and instructions.
- We know your time is valuable, and we will do our best to address your pet's health issues in a timely fashion and accommodate your schedule.