

Computed tomography (CT) service at the IZW

The research centre for computed tomography at the *Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research* (IZW) enables local veterinarians to schedule CT examinations for their patients. Upon request, CT examinations can also be performed on animals from zoos and free-ranging wildlife populations, particularly for the purpose of forensics and disease diagnostics.

The IZW has experience with this imaging technique since 2003. The radiology team has performed more than 12,000 CT examinations of pets and wild animals.

Our equipment:

- CT-Scanner Toshiba Aquilion CX, a 128-slice spiral scanner, generates high-resolution image datasets in ultra- short examination times
- Workstation Vitrea
- Workstation Osirix

1. Requirements for CT examination

- A veterinarian has to refer the patient for a CT scan.
- The patient is confirmed by a veterinarian to be stable for anaesthesia.

2. Procedure

- Appointments can be arranged by phone or E-mail.
- Patients can be referred to the radiology team of the IZW. In this case the IZW veterinarians will care for the animal from anaesthesia induction to wake-up.
- Referring veterinarians may also perform the anaesthesia and additional manipulations (e. g. sampling) themselves. In that case, the IZW-team is responsible solely for performing the CT scan.
- The CT examination will be performed according to the specific medical requirements, from a defined region of interest (ROI) up to a whole-body-scan, native or with contrast solution.

3. Medical report

A detailed medical report of the pathological findings will be provided within 2 weeks after CT examination.

Urgent cases (like protrusion or extrusion of an intervertebral disc): The first information will be provided to the referring veterinarian by phone or another form of direct conversation within 30 to 60 minutes after CT examination.

4. Additional options

Data can be provided in the following formats:

- CD/DVD with selected relevant CT-reconstructions (axial slices, multiplanary reconstructions, 3-dimensional reconstructions)
- CD/DVD of the whole CT-DICOM dataset
- Prints of relevant images

5. Limitations

The CT scanner is built for animals up to 200 centimeters length and 300 kg body weight.

6. Costs

Please contact us for a quotation. We have a definite pricelist based on the German Fee Schedule for Veterinarians (*Gebührenordnung für Tierärzte, GOT*).

7. Customer risks

The owner of an animal will be informed about the small risk of perianaesthetic complications. The anaesthetic risk is minimized due to the preanaesthetic evaluation of the patient (ASA score) as well as perianaesthetic monitoring.

8. Quality management

The CT scanner is under continuous inspection within a full-service-contract, regularly calibrated and fulfils all medical standards. All CT scans are performed by specifically trained personnel.

9. Contact

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