



## Examples of Referral Costs

Referral Consultation Daytime **£170**

Referral Consultation OOH  
- 9am to 9pm **£310**  
- 10pm onwards **£390**

Conscious Full Body CT Scan **£285**

Endoscopically-Guided Bilateral External Ear Canal Flush under General Anaesthetic **£450-550**

Specialist Ear Surgery  
- Ear base stoma surgery **£400-700**  
- Partial ear canal ablation and lateral bulla osteotomy **£800-1200**

We are currently re-establishing our 'Reptile Referral Service', with our team including a European Diplomate in Herpetology, as well as two Senior Clinical Scholars (Residents) studying towards their European Diploma in Herpetology. We are therefore offering a special 'Referral Offer' running until October 31st 2018, of a standardised 'sick' reptile diagnostic package.

This includes:

- 40 minute consultation
- thorough husbandry and nutrition review
- complete clinical examination
- Faecal analysis
- wet preparation and salt flotation
- Biochemistry and haematology

All of this for the exceptional price of £250. If further investigation of coelioscopy is indicated, this minimally invasive surgical procedure would be an additional £200 which is inclusive of endoscopy, general anaesthetic and 24 hours of hospitalisation. (N.B. medication and further tests e.g. histopathology of liver biopsies would be additional.)



A tortoise under a general anaesthesia to allow for endoscopic investigation of medically non-responsive anorexia

If you think you have a client and patient that would benefit from a referral consultation at the Dick Vet Rabbit and Exotic Practice, phone us on: **0131 650 7650** or alternatively e-mail [hfsareception@ed.ac.uk](mailto:hfsareception@ed.ac.uk) Please title your e-mail '**Rabbit and Exotic Practice Referral Request**' and provide the following information, (see example):

Patient Name:	<i>Smokey McGregor</i>
Species:	<i>Parrot</i>
Breed:	<i>African Grey</i>
Age:	<i>3 years 4 months</i>
Reason for Referral:	<i>Group living, aviary parrot on commercial pellet diet with fresh fruit and vegetables. 7 day history of increased respiratory effort, with tail bobbing at rest. Weight loss, subdued demeanour and reduced appetite. Unresponsive to medical therapy and now oxygen dependent. Referral for further investigation – assessment/imaging/endoscopy, etc</i>
Current Treatment(s):	<i>7 day course of doxycycline and nebulisation with dilute F10 (1:250)</i>
Date Patient Last Seen at your Practice:	<i>Currently an inpatient on oxygen therapy</i>
Level of Urgency (please state):	<i>Low Moderate <b>High</b></i>

The newsletter from **The Dick Vet Rabbit and Exotic Practice** at the Hospital for Small Animals

## In this issue

Our Services

Hospitalisation

Examples of case referred to us

Referral Costs

How to refer

## Welcome

The Dick Vet Rabbit and Exotic Practice can provide your practice with support for complex and challenging rabbit and exotic animal cases. We offer a 24-hour referral veterinary service in our state-of-the-art Hospital for Small Animals. Our practice is dedicated to providing gold standard veterinary care for small mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish and invertebrates.

Our team is comprised of  
Veterinary Surgeons:

Dr Kevin Eatwell  
Dr Jenna Richardson  
Dr Bronwyn Koterwas  
Dr Emma Keeble  
Dr Martyn Lewis

Registered Veterinary Nurses:

Beth Singer  
Kirsten Hearn

If you have an urgent  
veterinary referral, please  
phone our hospital on  
0131 650 7650.



## Dick Vet Rabbit and Exotic Practice

The Royal (Dick) School of  
Veterinary Studies  
The University of Edinburgh  
Easter Bush Campus  
Midlothian EH25 9RG



## Services

**We offer a complete range of diagnostic services and procedures, including dental procedures, soft tissue and orthopaedic surgery, ultrasonography, echocardiography, radiography, video-otoscopy, endoscopy, laparoscopy and advanced imaging techniques such as computed tomography (CT) and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI).**

Our oncology unit allows chemotherapy and radiation therapy options for suitable patients and we are the only centre in Scotland performing radiation therapy on rabbit patients.

We also are equipped with both an emergency critical care team and intensive care unit with 24-hour nursing and veterinary care. When needed, our patients can be treated with constant rate fluid and analgesia infusions, oxygen therapy and nebulisation.



We offer specialist imaging modalities for all species

## Hospitalisation



**We have four wards catering for the specialist needs of our patients: Rabbit and Small Mammal Ward, Avian Ward, Reptile Ward and Wildlife Ward. We also have a secure grass paddock for exercise and grazing of our herbivore patients.**

Our rabbit patients are provided with hide boxes, cat litter trays, hay bedding, commercial pellet and fresh vegetable/grass/forage diet, water bottle and bowl and have a dedicated quiet ward.

Reptile patients have thermostatically controlled vivariums, with UV-b light, basking area, humidity control (species appropriate) and hide boxes.

For our bird species, our Avian Ward is equipped with individual booths each temperature controlled with their own individual air supply and ventilation to prevent any spread of respiratory diseases.

## Examples of cases referred to us

### Case 1: Onion the African Grey Parrot

Onion presented following ingestion of one of her owner's earring. Conscious radiographs were taken to confirm the presence and location of the earring, which was found to be in the ventriculus of the gastrointestinal tract. The gold stud was too large to be passed in her droppings, so the decision was made to remove the earring using endoscopy.

Onion underwent a general anaesthetic, with intubation using a specialised avian endotracheal tube, and anaesthetic maintenance with our small animal ventilator.

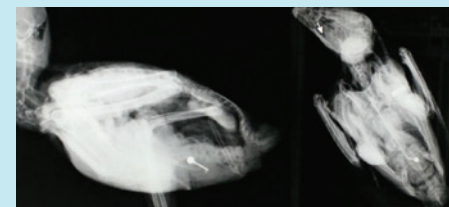


Our flexible endoscope, with small forceps, was used to successfully retrieve the earring, under direct visualisation. Onion made a full recovery and both her, and the earring, returned home uneventfully!

### Case 2: Rabbit Ear Disease

We are seeing increasing numbers of rabbits with otitis externa and otitis media, particularly lop-eared breeds. As part of every clinical examination, an otoscope examination of the distal external ear canal, with palpation of the ear bases for swelling, should be performed.

We routinely perform cytology of the external ear canals to assess the level of otitis externa present and work with our Dermatology team to create treatment plans specific for the individual patient. This can include endoscopically assisted ear flushing. Computed tomography (CT) scanning is the gold standard imaging modality for diagnosis of otitis media, which can otherwise go unnoticed until disease is advanced.



A specially designed plexiglass tube allows conscious CT scans of a variety of species

We perform our CT scans conscious in our rabbit patients, which is extremely useful for assessment of the middle ear (CT is also very useful for assessment of many other disease processes, including dental disease, urogenital and respiratory disease).

Where otitis externa and media are advanced, partial ear canal ablation and lateral bulla osteotomy may be warranted.