



Microchipping

Our own Practice computer system also records the unique numbers of all the microchips we have implanted. It is therefore easy for us to identify and return pets that we have chipped.

Will my pet's microchip work abroad?

Yes, the chips used in our clinic comply with the International Standard (ISO) and so can be recognised by scanners throughout Europe and beyond.

Is there more than one system in use?

No - all European microchips comply with a recognised International Standard (ISO).

What if my personal details change?

Whilst the chip with its unique number will remain with your pet for life, it is possible to update your personal details on the National Database as and when required.

Can the chip move after implantation?

Very rarely a small number of cases have been described where the chip has moved usually to the region of the elbow. However, these have still functioned perfectly well and not caused any problems.

Can microchips have side effects?

A European reporting system which monitors reactions to microchip implantation has failed to identify any significant problems in the last 6 years.

What is a microchip?

The microchip is a very small electronic device enclosed in a sterile and non-reactive capsule. It is implanted under the skin between the shoulder blades. This process causes minimal discomfort (just like the injection of a routine vaccination). There is no need for sedation or anaesthesia. Each chip has a unique number which can be read by an appropriate scanner. These are now widely available and most vets, local authorities and rescue shelters possess them.

Why should I have my pet 'chipped'?

1. The microchip is a permanent means of identifying your pet. Collars and tags, however useful, can easily be lost
2. Should your pet get lost, the microchip system will help to return him/her to you with the minimum of delay before being re-homed or even destroyed
3. Pets travelling abroad are required to be chipped as part of the Pet Travel Scheme

How can I be traced if my pet is found?

At the time of implantation of the chip, your personal details are submitted to a single National Database. The information is kept for life and the fee for this is included in the cost of the implantation. If your pet is found and its chip number identified, it is a relatively easy matter to reunite you with your pet.

KEY POINTS

- Microchips are the best method of permanently identifying your pet
- They are safe, practical and effective
- There is one database for all microchips
- They can be implanted at any age
- Implantation takes a few minutes and does not require sedation or anaesthesia
- Microchips are required as part of the Pet Travel Scheme