

Estimates listed below are valid until 3/31/21

Cataract Pre-Evaluation/Surgery Information and Estimate

We perform cataract evaluations on Mondays and Wednesdays. All patients must be up-to-date on vaccinations. On the day of the initial evaluation, the client will meet with the ophthalmology service team. The initial ophthalmologic exam will be performed and the findings will be discussed with the client. If the ophthalmologist and the client decide to move forward with the cataract work up, the patient will remain for the day for the additional work up.

The cataract work up consists of the electroretinogram (ERG), ultrasound of the eyes and lab testing if necessary. The **estimate for this portion of the initial exam and workup is \$735.00 - \$860.00**. If the patient is considered a candidate for the cataract surgery, the surgery will be scheduled on the next available surgery opening. If dental disease is present, we may recommend a dental cleaning be performed by the referring veterinarian prior to surgery. Instructions will be given to the client regarding medications, additional testing and appointments.

Surgery (Phacoemulsification):

The client and the patient will arrive at their appointed time the day before the scheduled surgery. They will once again meet with members of the ophthalmology service for an examination and to answer any questions the client may have. The patient will be admitted to the hospital at that time. After surgery the following day, the patient will stay overnight in our 24 hour Intensive Care Unit for monitoring and medication administration. Typically, the patients are discharged from the hospital the day after surgery.

Estimate for the cataract surgery and the initial workup: Unilateral \$3,150.00 - *\$3,570.00 Bilateral \$4,000.00 - *\$4,400.00. Recheck appointments and medication refills not included.

Recheck Appointments:

The client and patient will need to return to UTCVM for follow-up visits. These visits are not included in the surgery cost. The cataract surgery recheck appointment estimate is **\$85.00 - \$110.00** not including the cost of medication refills or additional eye drops.

Pre-Operative Workup:

All patients will need a CBC and serum chemistry panel performed no longer than one month prior to surgery. This can be done with the referring veterinarian or at UTCVM. Diabetic patients ideally should have their diabetes under control to be a candidate for cataract surgery. We request the referring veterinarian perform a recent CBC, serum chemistry, urinalysis, urine culture, glucose curve, and fructosamine prior to the initial visit. If a UTI is present, the patient should be treated with the appropriate antibiotic and a repeat culture should be performed after antibiotic therapy is completed to verify the infection is cleared. If preferred, we can perform the majority of the pre-operative testing at UTCVM. We are **unable** to perform the glucose curve. The glucose curve will need to be performed by the referring veterinarian. ***The estimate for the surgery and initial workup for diabetic patients is the high end of the estimate.**

Hospital Payment Policy: <https://vetmed.tennessee.edu/vmc/Clients/Pages/Payment-Policy.aspx>

Client information about Cataract Surgery:

https://vetmed.tennessee.edu/vmc/SmallAnimalHospital/Ophthalmology/Documents/UTCVM_Ophthalmology_CataractSurgery.pdf

UTCVM Visit Information for Clients: <https://tiny.utk.edu/UTCVMVisitInfo>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR REFERRAL!

2407 River Drive – Room C247
Knoxville, TN 37996-4544

Clients and/or Veterinarians

865-974-8387
Fax: 865-974-0174

Referring Veterinarians ONLY

Referral Coordinator: 865-974-3939
utvetref@utk.edu

vetmed.tennessee.edu/vmc