

Why Do Vets Recommend Blood Tests?

Family Matters

One of the most common questions we hear is:

"Does my pet really need a blood test?"

It's a fair question. After all, if your pet looks happy, is eating well and seems relatively normal, why take a blood sample?

At Amity, we never recommend a blood test simply because it's routine. We recommend it when we believe it will help us understand your pet better and allow you to make more informed decisions.

That's because our purpose isn't simply to treat illness—it's to **Empower You Through Education**.

Looking Beneath the Surface

Your pet may look perfectly healthy on the outside, but many illnesses begin long before obvious symptoms appear.

A blood test allows us to look "under the bonnet."

It gives us valuable information about how organs such as the liver, kidneys and pancreas are functioning, checks blood cells for signs of infection or anaemia, and may detect conditions that simply cannot be found during a physical examination alone.

It's one of the most powerful tools we have for finding problems early.

Confirming—Not Guessing

Veterinary medicine is a bit like detective work.

We listen to your concerns, examine your pet and build a list of possible causes. Blood tests help us narrow that list down.

Rather than guessing, we can make decisions based on evidence.

Sometimes the results confirm exactly what we suspected.

Sometimes they reveal something completely unexpected.

Either way, they help us recommend the right treatment with greater confidence.

Before an Anaesthetic

Many blood tests are performed before surgery or anaesthesia.

This isn't because we expect to find a problem.

It's because we want to identify any hidden issues that could affect how your pet handles an anaesthetic or recovers afterwards.

Knowing more helps us tailor treatment specifically to your pet and reduce unnecessary risk.

Monitoring Existing Conditions

Blood tests aren't only used to diagnose illness.

They also allow us to monitor pets already receiving treatment.

Conditions such as diabetes, kidney disease, liver disease and hormonal disorders often require regular blood testing to ensure treatment remains effective and appropriate.

Monitoring allows us to adjust medication before problems develop.

Sometimes Normal Is Excellent News

One of the best outcomes from a blood test is discovering that everything is normal.

That reassurance can be incredibly valuable.

It allows us to rule out many serious diseases and focus on other possible causes of your pet's symptoms without unnecessary uncertainty.

Another advantage of a normal blood test is that it establishes **your pet's own baseline**. Every pet is unique, and what's normal for one may not be exactly the same for another. If your pet becomes ill in the future, we can compare their new results with the blood values recorded while they were healthy. This gives us a much clearer picture of what has changed and helps us make more accurate decisions about their care.

Understanding Comes First

At Amity, we believe every recommendation should make sense to you.

If we suggest a blood test, we'll explain:

- Why we're recommending it.
- What information we're hoping to learn.
- How the results may influence treatment.
- Whether there are alternative options available.

We want you to feel informed, involved and confident—not pressured.

The best decisions are made together.

Because veterinary medicine isn't about performing more tests.

It's about finding the answers that help your pet live a longer, healthier and happier life.

After all, your pet isn't just another patient.

They're family.

Family Matters.

If you need more information, book an appointment with an Amity vet. We're here to Empower You Through Education and help you become your pet's greatest advocate.