



# **ONCOLOGY** CARING FOR YOUR PET THROUGHOUT THEIR ONCOLOGY TREATMENT

Our nurses have experience in nursing pets through chemotherapy, radiotherapy and other treatments. They provide dedicated care for cancer patients who often have to stay with us for prolonged periods while receiving treatment.

#### 1. Prepare for the day

At the start of the day, the Oncology RVNs will read the case histories and prepare the chemotherapy room for the patients scheduled to receive treatment.

#### 2. Admit patients

Patients are admitted for their diagnostic procedure via a nurse appointment, providing an opportunity to meet with the owner and answer any questions they may have. Where necessary, more serious concerns are escalated to the case clinician.



#### 3. Diagnostic procedures and treatment

#### Diagnostics

Should a diagnostic procedure, such as CT, ultrasound or x-ray be required, the assigned oncology nurse will support and monitor their patient from anaesthetic induction to recovery. Patients receiving chemotherapy form a close bond with our oncology nurses. Positive reinforcement, such as treats, fuss and toys are used to make these regular visits as pleasant of an experience as possible for our patients.

## 5. Evening rounds

In the afternoon, the oncology team will discuss their inpatients, including changes in presentation and/or treatment plans, diagnosis following investigations and necessary overnight care. A handover is then given to the out of hours clinical team to enable continuity of care.

## 4. Discharges

Patients admitted for day stay diagnostic imaging or chemotherapy will be discharged by the nurses by the end of the day. The nurse will discuss discharge instructions with the owner, answering any questions they may have.

#### Chemotherapy

The oncology nurses will perform blood tests, deliver chemotherapy treatment, and provide any additional support that is required when discharging patients back to their family. All chemotherapy treatments are carried out in our dedicated chemotherapy suite which is kept calm to aid a relaxing visit.

#### **Emergencies**

The oncology nurses assist with the admission and stabilisation of oncological emergencies, organising the patient's diagnostic imaging, and/or supportive treatment they may require.

To find out more about the different roles within our Nursing team, visit: **southfields.co.uk/join-our-team** 

### Southfields veterinary specialists

## PART OF