



## What is Endoscopy?

Endoscopy (minimally invasive surgery) is a technique for performing procedures through natural openings in the body or through one or more tiny holes, rather than through large incisions. An endoscope inserted in the body magnifies internal structures on a TV monitor for thorough examination. Through the same opening or through additional small incisions surgical instruments may be used.

By performing procedures endoscopically veterinarians offer their patients less pain, minimal recovery time and fewer complications. In many cases performing a procedure endoscopically allows for it to be done as an outpatient procedure, a less painful and traumatic alternative for both patient and owner.

### Advantages of Endoscopy:

- Smaller incisions are less painful and reduce recovery time.
- Allows for excellent visualization of internal organs.
- Simple to perform and involves few complications.
- Allows for many procedures to be safely performed as out-patient surgeries.
- Visualization afforded by this technique makes it a precise means of assessment of treatment and follow-up.



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# Veterinary Endoscopy

The Care Your Pet Deserves

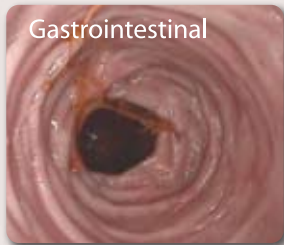




## Applications of Veterinary Endoscopy

At first, veterinary endoscopy was predominately used as a diagnostic tool. Since the benefits were proven, endoscopic techniques have been developed in many areas of veterinary medicine to offer you and your pet less invasive - and less painful - alternatives to traditional open surgery.

Some of the most common endoscopic procedures are listed here, but specialists continue to expand the application of endoscopy to other areas. If your pet requires surgery, ask your veterinarian how endoscopy may be able to offer a less painful option.



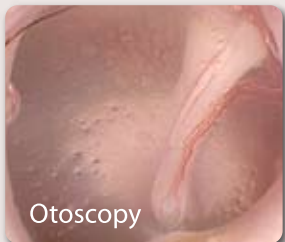
Gastrointestinal



Laparoscopic Spay



Rhinoscropy



Otoscopy

**Arthroscopy** is endoscopy of the joint. It is used in cases of chronic lameness, joint pain, joint instability, swelling and abnormal radiographic findings.

**Bronchoscopy** is endoscopy of the airways and lungs, facilitating thorough visual examination of the respiratory tract to identify structural abnormalities, collect samples of abnormal airway secretions, identify and remove foreign bodies and biopsy lesions or masses.

**Cystoscopy** is endoscopy of the urinary bladder, used in patients presenting with chronic infections, blood in the urine, straining to urinate, incontinence, trauma, stones and abnormal radiographs.

**Gastrointestinal Endoscopy** is the endoscopic exploration of the stomach and intestines. A partial list of indications includes regurgitation, dysphagia, salivation, nausea, vomiting, blood in the stool, anorexia, diarrhea, weight loss, fecal mucus and straining to defecate. It is most commonly used for obtaining biopsies and the removal of foreign bodies.

**Gastropexy** is a preventative surgery in at risk dogs that prevents the twisting of the stomach which is fatal if not treated quickly. The stomach is sutured to the abdominal wall in order to prevent the stomach from twisting. Endoscopy eliminates the need to perform open surgery which requires an incision of 6" to 12." Gastropexy is often done at the time of laparoscopic spay.

**Laparoscopy** is endoscopy of the abdominal cavity. Laparoscopy is commonly used as a diagnostic tool for taking biopsies of the liver, kidney and pancreas. Laparoscopic surgeries being performed include adrenalectomy, gastropexy, hernia repair and spays.

**Laparoscopic Spay** is a revolutionary new technique for neutering female cats and dogs. Performed through one to three small incisions in the abdomen rather than a large incision it offers a less painful, faster healing alternative to traditional spays.

**Otoscopy** is endoscopy of the external and middle ear. It is one of the most common applications of endoscopy in veterinary medicine. Otoscopy allows for safe and thorough ear cleaning under constant visualization, removal of foreign objects, polyp removal and diagnostic sampling.

**Rhinoscropy** is endoscopy of the nasal cavity, commonly indicated in dogs and cats with nasal discharge, nasal obstruction, chronic sneezing, nasal bleeding, facial distortion, nasal pain, acute severe sneezing, reverse sneezing and abnormal radiographs.

**Vaginoscopy** is the endoscopic examination of the vagina. Indications for vaginoscopy include vaginal discharge, bleeding or masses, trauma, incontinence, foreign body removal and straining to urinate. Reproductive indications include transcervical artificial insemination, difficulty in labor and monitoring of the estrous cycle.