

Post Mortem Examination Fee Structure

Below details the pricing for our post-mortem examination service.

Please read in conjunction with our submission guidelines and always contact the Veterinary Pathology Centre (VPC) prior to submission.

Fees are the sum of three main factors:

1. **Post Mortem examination and basic histopathology** based on species and weight – see fees in price tables below. A special processing fee may be applicable in certain circumstances – price on application.
2. **Disposal**
 - a. Routine disposal of cadavers is by communal cremation based on weight of the cadaver and is charged in addition to the fee for *post mortem* examination. Disposal charges exclude VAT:

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Animals Under 10kg | £6 per cadaver |
| Animals over 10kg | £0.75 per kg (up to a maximum disposal fee of £400) |

- b. Individual cremation is not offered as part of the service but can be arranged by owners directly with a local pet cremation service. When booking the service, this should include the crematorium company collecting the remains from VPC. Prices will vary according to the individual requirements of the pet owner and would be payable directly to the pet cremation provider.
3. **Additional testing** such as microbial culture, toxicology, parasitology etc. may be recommended in some cases. Any additional testing external to the Veterinary Pathology Centre will be charged at cost following approval by the submitting veterinary surgeon.

Central Nervous System Cases

In CNS cases where removal of the brain and spinal cord is indicated, a surcharge will apply in addition to the standard fees. This covers the additional time taken to carry out the *post mortem* as well as the significantly increased number of histological sections that typically need to be taken and interpreted in such cases. Please contact us for a quote in these cases.

Litigation Cases

Potential or known legal cases requiring *post mortem* examination and the preparation of reports for legal purposes will be discussed in advance and costs confirmed prior to submission. Please call for further information.

Zoo & Wildlife *Post Mortem* Examination

For non-domestic species from registered zoological institutions, please contact us directly for a quotation.

Some species, especially Old-World primates, camelids, European badger, and some rodents such as capybara and mara may pose potential zoonotic risks that necessitate use of greater containment facilities for *post mortem* examination.

Please contact us for advice in advance. Additional fees will apply. Where *post mortems* of megafauna are carried out as part of a site visit, e.g., stranded whales and dolphins, a fee can be negotiated separately depending on requirements. Please call and speak to us in such circumstances.

Domestic & Exotic Pet *Post Mortem* Examinations

| Species/Group | Prices (ex VAT) Includes <i>Post Mortem</i> Examination & Histopathology | | |
|--------------------|---|---|--|
| | Cats | <4kg | >4kg |
| £250 | | £300 | |
| Dogs | 0-15kg | 15-30kg | >30kg |
| | £350 | £400 | £450 |
| Rabbits & Rodents | 0-1kg | 1-5kg | >5kg |
| | £220 | £250 | £300 |
| Ferrets & Meerkats | Any Size | | |
| | £220 | | |
| Birds | 0-1kg | 1-10kg | >10kg |
| | £250 | £380 | £450 |
| Reptiles | Small (Geckos, Chameleons, Snakes <0.5m) | Medium (Adult Iguanas, Monitors, Snakes 0.5- 2m) | Large (Adult Crocodilians, Snakes >2m) |
| | £220 | £250 | £350 |
| Amphibians | Any Size | | |
| | £250 | | |
| Fish | Small <15cm | Medium 15-60cm | Large >60cm |
| | £180 | £220 | £350 |

Containment Level 3 *Post Mortem* may be required in some cases e.g., where there is known or suspected notifiable disease. Please contact us for advice in advance. Additional fees will apply.

Livestock & Equine *Post Mortem* Examinations

| Species/Group | Prices (ex VAT) Includes <i>Post Mortem</i> Examination & Histopathology | | |
|--|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| | Horse & Donkeys | 0-250kg | 250-500kg |
| £500 | | £650 | £800 |
| Sheep, Goats & Deer | 0-10kg | 10-100kg | >100kg |
| | £180 | £330 | £380 |
| Cattle | 0-100kg | 100-500kg | >500kg |
| | £320 | £450 | £600 |
| Pigs | 0-50kg | 50-250kg | >250kg |
| | £275 | £350 | £450 |
| Camelids* <i>Post Mortem</i> carried out in containment level 3 | 0-100kg | 100-500kg | >500kg |
| | £320 | £450 | £600 |
| Poultry | Small (Pigeons, Quails etc.) | Medium (Chickens, Pheasants etc.) | Large (Geese, Turkeys etc.) |
| | £150 | £200 | £250 |

Containment Level 3 *Post Mortem* may be required in some cases e.g., where there is known or suspected notifiable disease. Please contact us for advice in advance. Additional fees will apply.

* Containment Level 3 *Post Mortem* will be required due to the increased prevalence of mycobacterial disease in these species. Weight restrictions may apply. Please contact us for advice in advance.