

Bronchoscopy in dogs and cats is indicated for the evaluation of the major airways in animals with suspected structural abnormalities, for visual assessment of airway inflammation or pulmonary hemorrhage, and as a means of collecting specimens in animals with undiagnosed upper and lower respiratory tract disease.

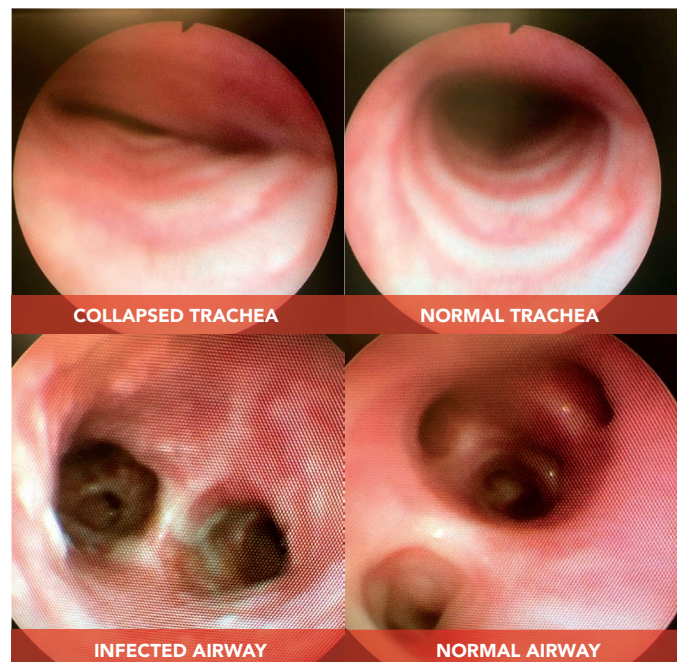
The ability for bronchoscopy to view the actual lung structures and obtain samples from the lower airway makes the bronchoscopy a far superior diagnostic tool for upper and lower airway disease.

#### **HOW IS BRONCHOSCOPY HELPFUL?**

It can be used to identify structural abnormalities of the major airways such as:

- **Tracheal collapse**
- **Mass lesions**
- **Tears**
- **Strictures**
- **Lung lobe torsions**
- **Bronchiectasis**
- **Bronchial collapse**
- **External airway compression**

Specimen collection techniques performed in conjunction with bronchoscopy are valuable diagnostic tools because they can obtain specimens from deeper regions of the lung than is possible with the tracheal wash technique, and visually directed sampling of specific lesions or lung lobes is also possible.



#### **WHAT CAN A PET OWNER EXPECT WHEN SCHEDULING A BRONCHOSCOPY FOR A PET?**

Owners can expect to fast their pet (no food or water) after midnight the evening prior to the bronchoscopy.

#### **HOW LONG IS PROCEDURE?**

The procedure is short in duration and can take anywhere from 5-15 minutes.

#### **IS ANESTHESIA INVOLVED?**

Depending on patient size, gas anesthesia with intubation or total intravenous anesthesia will be used. Bronchoscopy can be sometimes performed through an endotracheal tube (larger patients) or alongside an oxygen delivery catheter (smaller patients).