



About VSG®

VSG® is a specialist facility dedicated to providing the highest standard of care for surgery, medicine & radiology patients.

Our team of dedicated specialists and support staff work together to provide tailor-made diagnostics & treatments for each individual patient.

Animal Emergency Centre (AEC) operates from the VSG® facility to provide emergency care for pets from 6pm to 8am and during weekends. These experienced veterinarians and veterinary nurses also provide round-the-clock care and monitoring of hospitalised animals under VSG® care.

1 Specialist Veterinary Expertise.

General practice veterinarians are able to refer their patients to the Veterinary Specialist Group in situations where they feel those cases may benefit from additional expertise and/or specialist equipment.

2 Training Facility.

The hospital provides hands on training for veterinary nursing students and applied science students undertaking their study at Unitec and for veterinary students who wish to see specialist practice.

3 Continuing Education.

The hospital and staff are a continuing education resource for veterinarians in the Auckland area and beyond. Regular seminars provide veterinarians with a forum for presenting and receiving up-to-date veterinary information.

The staff at VSG® attend various conferences and seminars within NZ and overseas to continue to keep up with the latest ideas and techniques from around the world. VSG® also host veterinary specialists from overseas to provide continuing education to veterinarians within NZ.

The Specialists



DR. ALEX WALKER completed a small animal surgical residency at the University of Missouri at Columbia (UMC) from 1981-1983. Alex passed his MACVSc in 1985 and in 1998 was recognised as a Specialist in Small Animal Surgery. Alex is past president of the Surgical Chapter of the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists. He is a founding partner of VSG®.

DR. CHRIS WARMAN obtained a clinical position at Melbourne University in 1980 where he completed a Masters degree in Veterinary Studies in Radiology. Chris has been involved in referral veterinary imaging since 1984. He was recognised as a Specialist in Veterinary Radiology in 1998. He is a founding partner of VSG®.



DR. MARK ROBSON gained a residency position in small animal medicine at Louisiana State University (LSU) in 1992. In 1995, Mark passed the US board certification exams to become a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine. In 2001 he was recognised as a Specialist in Small Animal Medicine. He is a founding partner of VSG®.

DR. RICHARD JERRAM began a four year internship and residency program in small animal surgery at Texas A&M University in 1995. In 2000, Richard passed the US board certification exams to become a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons. In 2001 he was recognised as a Specialist in Small Animal Surgery and joined VSG® that same year.



DR. MIKE COLEMAN gained a residency position in animal medicine at VSG® in 2002. In 2006, Mike passed his exams to become a Fellow of the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists in small animal medicine. He was recognised as a Specialist in Small Animal Medicine that same year, and continues to work at VSG®.



DR. MICHAEL KING gained a residency position in small animal surgery at Virginia Tech, Virginia in 2003. In 2007, Michael passed the US board certification examinations to become a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons. Michael joined VSG® in 2008 on his return to New Zealand. Michael is currently awaiting recognition of his specialist status by the VONZ.



The Team

Alongside the specialists, there are dedicated support staff employed at the Veterinary Specialist Group hospital. These include residents, interns, qualified and experienced veterinary nurses, veterinary receptionists and administration staff.

Facilities & Services

- Separate cat & dog waiting areas and wards
- Dedicated medicine ward
- Separate radioactive iodine ward
- Dedicated recovery area
- Separate, fully enclosed induction area
- Two surgical theatres
- Central surgical supply area
- Endoscopy room
- Isolation room
- Separate noisy dog ward
- Dedicated radiology and ultrasound rooms
- Hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT)

Services include:

Imaging

- Ultrasonography, echocardiography, analog & digital radiography (x-ray), PennHIP radiography, computed tomography (CT), fluoroscopy, ultrasound guided biopsy, radiographic evaluation, radiology contrast studies, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)

Internal Medicine

- Endoscopy (upper and lower GI), bronchoscopy, rhinoscopy, cystoscopy, bone marrow aspiration, blood pressure evaluation, electrocardiography (ECG), Holter monitoring, endocrinology, gastroenterology, cardiology, nephrology, urology, oncology, neurology, haematology, chemotherapy, radioactive iodine treatment (I131), intensive care, hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT)

Surgery

- Orthopaedic:* arthroscopy, fracture fixation, total hip replacements (THR), triple pelvic osteotomy (TPO), tibial plateau leveling osteotomy (TPLO) and tibial tuberosity advancement (TTA) for cranial cruciate ligament injury, lameness diagnosis
- Soft tissue:* thoracic, upper respiratory tract, abdominal, urogenital, skin, oncological
- Neurologic:* spinal fracture stabilization, laminectomy, cervical spondylomyelopathy (wobbler) surgery, lumbosacral decompression/stabilization, neurological diagnosis and treatment, hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT)

