

Cat Blood Pressure measurement technique



Doppler BP monitoring equipment from Thames Medical. Note that the width of the inflatable part of the cuff should be around 30 – 40% of the circumference of the limb it is being placed around. CAT Doppler cuffs are all pre marked with a range, there's no need to measure



Ultrasound coupling gel should also be applied to the area...

It is important to take the cat's blood pressure in as stress-free an environment as possible. Ideally, the owner should be present. Blood pressure should be measured after the animal has had a few minutes to settle and before any other procedure, such as clinical examination or rectal temperature taking.



The cuff should be placed snugly around the forelimb

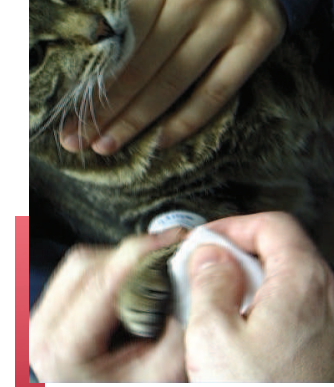


The flow of blood is measured through the common digital artery located between the carpal and metacarpal pads. To get good contact with the Doppler probe, the area should be soaked with spirit.

... and to the Doppler probe.



The probe is then held just below the carpal pad and the machine switched on. The position of the probe then needs to be gently altered until you can hear the flow of blood.



Once a clear signal is heard, the cuff is gently inflated to around 20mm of mercury above the point where blood flow can no longer be heard. The cuff is then slowly and steadily deflated. The point where blood flow is first heard again is systolic pressure. The average of five readings is used, and ideally each reading should be about the same.



Download the video from www.thamesmedical.com