

# Dog microchip information and disclaimer



Please read the following information carefully regarding your dog's microchip insertion.

## Eligibility for microchipping

To ensure the safety and wellbeing of all pets, owners and staff at this event, please note the following:

- **Health requirements:** for the safety of your pet and others, dogs that are sick, injured, or displaying symptoms of illness (e.g., coughing, sneezing, vomiting, diarrhoea, lethargy) should not attend.
- **Parasite control:** dogs with fleas or other external parasites should not attend. Please treat any infestations before bringing your pet for microchipping to prevent spread.
- **Temperament and handling:** for the safety of everyone, dogs that are aggressive, severely anxious, or cannot be safely handled by our staff will not be microchipped at this event. We recommend consulting your veterinarian for microchipping in a more controlled environment.
- **Puppies and weight:** puppies must be at least 6 weeks old, or roughly one kilogram in body weight, to be eligible for microchipping.
- **Post-insertion care:** after your pet's microchip has been inserted, it is crucial to monitor the injection site (typically between the shoulder blades) for the next few days. You may observe slight tenderness, minor swelling, or a small scab at the site. This is generally normal.
- **Keep the area clean and dry:** avoid bathing your dog or allowing them to swim for at least 24 - 48 hours.
- **Licking and scratching:** prevent your dog from licking or scratching the injection site excessively.
- **Report** any unusual or persistent redness, significant swelling, discharge, heat, or lameness to your veterinarian immediately.

By proceeding with the microchipping procedure, you acknowledge that you have read and understood this information regarding post-insertion care and the potential, albeit rare, risks associated with microchipping. Should you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to speak with council staff prior to your appointment or follow up with your veterinarian after your appointment.

## Possible risks associated with microchipping

While microchipping is a safe and routine procedure, as with any injection, there are minimal associated risks:

- **Mild discomfort or pain:** your dog may experience brief discomfort during the injection.
- **Bleeding:** the injection site may bleed slightly as the needle penetrates the skin. This bleeding should be minimal and stop within a couple of minutes.
  - **When to worry:** if the bleeding is excessive, persistent, or accompanied by other symptoms like swelling, redness, or discharge, it's important to contact a veterinarian.
- **Swelling or bruising:** localised swelling or a small bruise at the injection site can occur and usually resolves within a few days.
- **Infection:** although rare, there is a small risk of infection at the injection site.
- **Microchip migration:** in rare cases, the microchip may migrate from its original insertion site. This does not typically cause harm but can make the chip harder to locate.
- **Hair loss or lumps:** while these are extremely rarely, a small area of hair loss or a benign lump (granuloma) may form at the injection site.
- **Microchip failure:** occasionally, a microchip may fail and become unreadable. This is uncommon.
- **Allergic reaction:** while exceptionally rare, an allergic reaction to the microchip material is theoretically possible.

