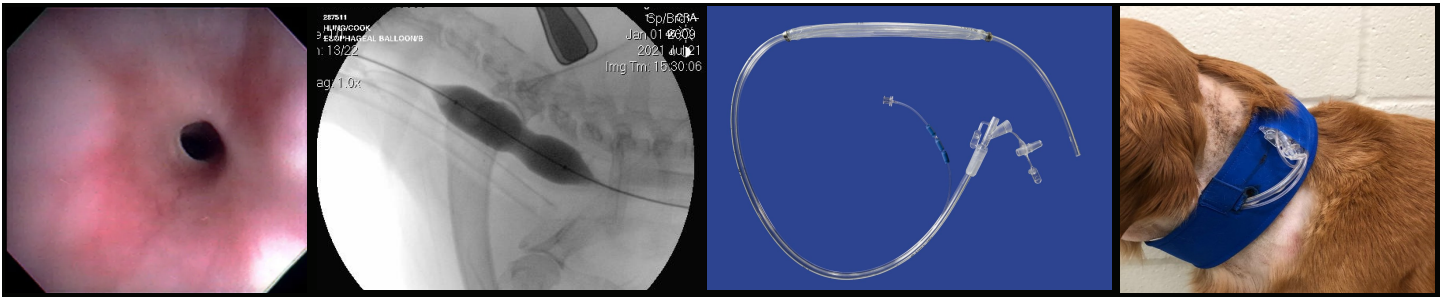


Esophageal stricture management



**VETERINARY MEDICINE
& BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES**
TEXAS A & M UNIVERSITY



Procedure: This minimally invasive procedure is performed under anesthesia. The esophageal stricture is identified using an endoscope, and then measured using fluoroscopy. A balloon catheter is directed across the lesion and used to open up the stricture. A balloon-esophageal tube (BE-tube) is placed across the affected area to allow daily at-home dilation, and feeding (if necessary).

Indications: Esophageal stricture

Patient eligibility (species, size, gender): Any dog or cat; any size.

Cost: \$7000-9000. Pre-operative evaluation (imaging, labwork) +/- supportive care (fluids, pain medication) may be necessary, and will incur additional costs.

The BE-tube is removed after 4-6 weeks; this requires anesthesia and costs about \$1500.

Length of stay: 48 hours post-procedure to address discomfort.

Complications: Esophageal perforation (rare, but life threatening); recurrence of the stricture (rare, unless the BE-tube becomes dislodged); infection of the BE-tube site (uncommon; manageable).

Anticipated outcome: Generally good; patients treated earlier in the course of their disease tend to do better. We do not expect a return to full function; instead, the goal is to enable the patient to consistently eat and keep down a balanced diet.

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