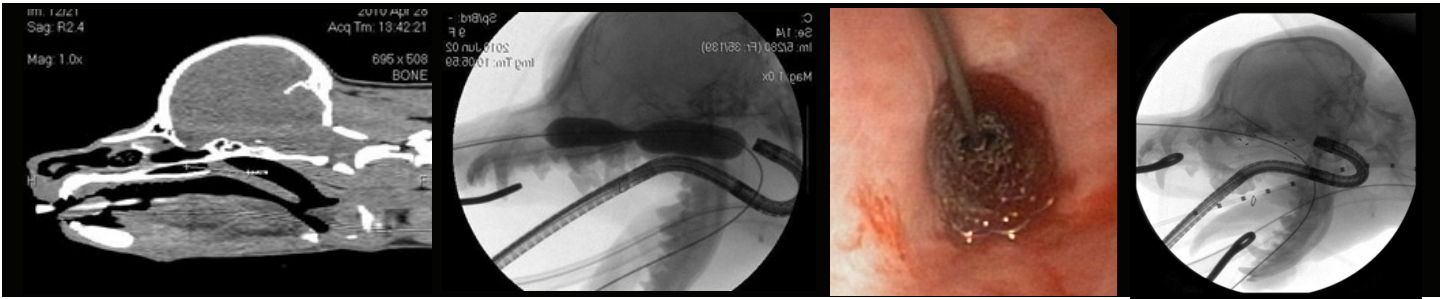


# Nasopharyngeal stenosis correction



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



**Procedure:** This procedure is performed under anesthesia, and uses endoscopy and fluoroscopy. The affected area at the back of the nose is viewed with an endoscope, and a guidewire is directed across the stricture. In some cases, a new opening must be created with a needle. A balloon is used to open up the affected area. Various options (stents [permanent or temporary], chemotherapeutic drugs, laser debridement) are then used to keep the damaged tissue open and prevent recurrence of the stricture.

**Indications:** Nasopharyngeal stenosis.

**Patient eligibility (species, size, gender):** All dogs and cats, of any size.

**Cost:** \$5,000-9,000, depending on duration of procedure and stent type. In addition, a CT scan of the nose and throat is needed for pre-op planning.

Temporary stents are removed after 3-4 weeks; this costs about \$1000.

**Length of stay:** 24 hours post-procedure to monitor discomfort.

**Complications:** Minor long-term complications are common, and include cnasal infection, with discharge and odor. Major complications are less common, but include stricture recurrence, and damage to the palate (oro-nasal fistula).

**Anticipated outcome:** This is a salvage procedure and is designed to let the patient eat, sleep, and play more comfortably. Owners should be prepared for long term complications, which can require additional interventions.

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