



Scanning in Scotland – attendance abdominal ultrasound course, general level

Do you want to be ultrasound empowered? Are you ready to start your ultrasound journey? Or perhaps you have been using ultrasound for a time but feel a lack of confidence or structured approach and recognise it's time to consolidate your skills. This **2-day engaging and comprehensive course** on small animal abdominal ultrasound is designed to cover the theory and practical aspects which will get you going and improving on your ultrasound journey.

Join me, Sarah Keir - I love teaching and many attendees of my courses remark at how this enthusiasm comes across in my teaching. I want people to have this ultrasound superpower! I also enjoy finding novel ways of teaching and for people to learn as I have been to so many training courses that are dull and similar. Expect this course to be different! Learn what you need to know to be useful immediately after the course with plenty of practical applications and tips throughout the course so you can use your new skills and knowledge right away and build your confidence in recommending ultrasound scans.



Course – attendance course on abdominal ultrasound of small animals for beginners and improvers, including pre- and post-attendance online course.

Dates – Thursday 30th and Friday 31st October 2025.

Times - Arrive, settle and get drinks and snacks 9-9:30. Course will start 9:30am and finish about 5:30pm. Refreshment breaks, and a longer lunch break will be taken during the day.

Venue – Stirling Court Hotel, University of Stirling campus, central Scotland.



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- Driving – lots of free parking on site, easy access from the M9 with access from the North on the A9, Glasgow on the M80 and Edinburgh on the M9.
- Only 2.3 miles from Stirling train station, a main line train station and accommodation available onsite (dogs allowed) in the pleasant park surroundings of the university campus with many other options nearby.

Price – Only £1000+VAT. If you bring a dog suitable for scanning, you receive a **£100 discount** on this course.

What will this course cover. This comprehensive course on small animal ultrasound is designed to equip veterinary surgeons with the essential knowledge and skills to proficiently use ultrasound in the diagnosis and assessment of various small animal abdominal organs and to integrate ultrasound scans into their daily diagnostic practice.

- Confidence in ultrasound, how to practice effectively and how to improve client uptake in ultrasound scans.
- Getting to know an ultrasound machine and image optimisation - how to drive a machine, building visual-spatial skills and getting the most out of your ultrasound machine.
- Image formation, fundamentals of ultrasound physics and formation of artefacts – why what you see is not always the truth and how to use these to your advantage.
- POCUS for the abdomen, recognise fluid, mineral and gas, how to identify unknown structures – immediate recognition in emergency case and how to work it out in difficult cases.
- Approach to a structured abdominal scan to maximise diagnostic potential and then applying it to your clinical cases.
- Main abdominal organs – how to scan, normal appearance, and common diseases and appearances of these.
- Principles and practical on in-plane ultrasound-guided sampling techniques – sampling fluid, cystocentesis and FNAs.
- Not sure which cases would benefit from a scan? I use real cases and clinical scenarios to help with the recognition of how useful ultrasonography can be in medicine, cardiology and emergency cases.



VetArtis trading name of SK Veterinary Services Ltd

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Food and refreshments

Lunch on both days is provided by The Stirling Court Hotel team. Vegetarian options will be available as standard. Please let me know about other dietary requirements at the time of booking so I can let the venue know. Hot and cold drinks, including de-cafeinated options and REAL coffee will be available.



What is included

- Pre-attendance online course of 3-6 hours, depending on how much you interact with the course and optional extra reading and exercises.
- Clinical theory and clinical practical sessions over the two days in small groups (maximum 3 around each machine).
- Digital notes, a [Veterinary Ultrasound Pocket Guide Abdominal edition](#), laminated posters of systematic ultrasound of the abdomen, handouts on practice goals for abdominal ultrasound, CPD certificate.
- Delegates are invited to join a closed WhatsApp Group with their colleagues on the course, designed to support learners after course completion and where I put up cases in the months after the course to keep people learning and interested.
- Lunch and refreshments throughout the day as detailed above.

What is different about this course from other CPD providers?

I've been on plenty of ultrasound CPD over the years, some good and plenty that was not, so I have designed this course to be the best! Although some aspects of ultrasound can be effectively taught online, the actual skill of performing an ultrasound scan is highly practical and needs lots of hands-on practical probe time. I have designed this course to maximise this practical time.

- **Group size.** Maximum of 9 delegates so there is plenty of opportunity to ask questions and get personalised help from your tutor. Also, there will be 3 practical ultrasound stations and so a maximum of 3 vets per station.

- The **use of phantoms, models and mixed reality simulators** to instruct on the various skills that make an effective ultrasound scan. When learning to drive a car you don't have to go straight to parallel parking, so why should it be expected for an ultrasound scan? Struggling to follow a section of intestine? - I have a model for this. Unsure how to accurately hit a target with ultrasound-guided sampling? - I have phantoms for you to practice on.
- A **range of ultrasound machines** that are typically available in veterinary practices are available so you can make yourself familiar with the layouts, the difference in image quality and use machines that are more typical of the quality you are likely to be using daily. I also bring high quality machines for the clinical scanning because I understand how frustrating it can be when you can't see anything but grey fuzzy images!
- **Complementary online course** so that the necessary background theory can be done before the course, leaving **more time for clinical scanning** on the attendance days. There are also resources and modules to return to the online course after the practical scanning so you can hone those skills.
- **Learning support continues** after the course with delegates invited to join a closed WhatsApp group to share cases and ultrasound wins in a collaborative environment.



Who is this course for?

This course is designed for vets who have no or little experience in ultrasound and want a solid foundation for their developing ultrasound journey. I also recommend this course for those vets who have low confidence in their ultrasound scanning abilities – perhaps avoiding doing the scans, or recommending a colleague does the scan. Therefore, this course is also suitable for those vets who have been dabbling in ultrasound for a while but feel they are not progressing their skills or confidence.



Who is this course not aimed at?

The focus of the course will be on the approach to the larger abdominal organs and recognising normal ultrasonographic anatomy of these organs (liver, gallbladder, GIT, kidneys, urinary bladder, reproductive organs). If you are already scanning at this level and are confident in this with a structured approach to an abdominal ultrasound examination, then it is time to move on to the next level – advanced scanning to uncover the advanced-level details. I will be holding attendance courses to cover this in the future so please let me know if this is of interest and I can inform you when the course is available.

This course will include a module on the theory of scanning cats, but it is not ethical or safe to use cats in the practical scanning course. There will be access to some provided dogs, but practical time may be limited unless delegates can bring suitable dogs.

What is not included

- Travel or accommodation. Accommodation is not included but there is a wide choice of accommodation in the area with a broad price range – I provide a leaflet with accommodation suggestions.
- Dietary requirements beyond vegetarian.

What do others say about this course?

I recommend you [look at the amazing feedback previous participants on my courses](#) have given.

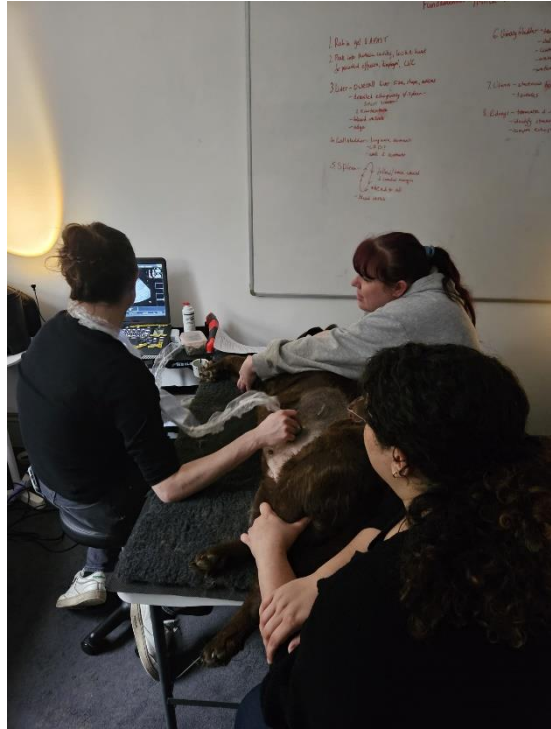
Price

Only £1000 (+VAT) for this amazing learning experience. Bring a dog suitable for scanning and receive a £100 discount on the course. There will be access to some provided dogs, but practical scanning time in animals may be limited unless some delegates can bring suitable dogs.

If you are interested, then please contact me at sarah@vetartis.co.uk or call/message on 07421320662. I am also happy to set up a Zoom meeting and I can answer any questions you may have about the course. **Secure your reservation on this course by paying a £200 deposit now, with your place confirmed once the full balance is paid 8 weeks prior to the course.** To pay, I need to create an invoice for you and so I need the details of what business/person will be paying and who to send the invoice to. Access to the online course will be granted once your place has been paid in full. Places on the course are strictly limited and on a first come, first served basis.



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