

## Preparing your client for referral

### Making an appointment

Most neurologic problems are best addressed sooner rather than later, so we encourage you to contact us as soon as a problem is noted. Consultations with Dr. Sandler generally last 60 minutes. If additional diagnostics are necessary, Dr. Sandler will work with the client to find a time that accommodates both the urgency of the problem and the client's schedule. Our emergency team is available 24/7 for cases that require immediate attention.

### Please call us for appointment availability: (412) 373-4200

In the event of an after-hours emergency, please ask to speak with a member of our emergency team. They will be able to relay Dr. Sandler's availability and coordinate the best care for your patients. MRI at Avets hospital in Monroeville is not dependent on technical staff as Dr. Sandler performs and reads the scans herself.

### What records should be sent before the consult?

When sending records to us, the most important features are:

- Recent bloodwork
- Diagnostic imaging results
- Current medications and dosages

We will repeat diagnostics only if additional information is needed or bloodwork is more than 6 weeks old.




**Open 24/7/365\***

**2674 Monroeville Blvd, Monroeville, PA 15146**

**P 412.373.4200 | F 412.373.4250**

**Avets.com**

Connect With Us!  Avets.us

### Notes:

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*\*Veterinarian on premises seeing dogs and cats.*

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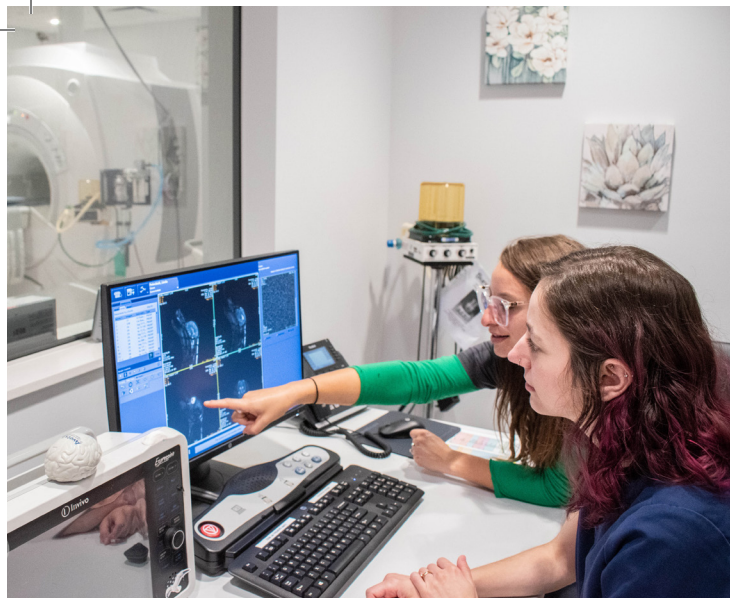


## Neurology & Neurosurgery Referral Information for Veterinarians



Our board certified Neurologist is equipped to diagnose and treat complex neurologic cases





### What's great about the Neurology & Neurosurgery Department at Avets?

Our Neurology & Neurosurgery Department is backed by an amazing team of doctors and support staff. We have a 24hr emergency room, state-of-the-art ICU, and other specialties on standby for consultations.

Our Critical Care, Internal Medicine, and Surgery specialists all work together with Neurology. We have on-site MRI, CT, Ultrasound, and Fluoroscopy.

### What's unique about MRI at Avets in Monroeville?

Dr. Sandler performs and reads all of the MRIs. This ensures that there is a complete scan and that we take advantage of every possible chance for making a diagnosis prior to the completion of the MRI.

Dr. Sandler is also able to relay results to concerned pet owners immediately upon completion. Our MRI is on-site, which means that patients requiring immediate surgery do not have to undergo a second anesthesia. They are simply taken directly from MRI to the neurosurgery suite.

## What are the next steps?

### Should I refer my client?

Absolutely! Even in cases where owners may be reluctant to pursue advanced imaging, Dr. Sandler can review treatment options, prognoses, and discuss quality of life. A better understanding of the disease process facing their pet can often provide peace of mind to your clients. They will never be pressured into pursuing testing or treatments they are not comfortable with.

If you are ever unsure about whether or not to refer a case, please feel free to call our hospital to consult with us.

### When should an emergency referral be considered?

- Patients that are non-ambulatory or rapidly progressing over 24-48 hours
- Seizures lasting >3-4 minutes, >2-3 seizures in 30 minutes, or >3-5 seizures in a 12-hour period
- Any patient that is non-responsive or comatose
- Head traumas
- Suspected toxicities
- Any patient with rapidly progressing intracranial signs over 48 hours



### Rebecca Sandler

DVM, Diplomate ACVIM (Neurology)

Dr. Sandler graduated from the Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine in Ithaca, NY in 2016. After graduating, she completed a one-year rotating internship at the VCA Shoreline/Veterinary Referral Emergency Center in Norwalk, CT in 2017. She then completed a one-year specialty internship in Neurology at BluePearl Georgia Veterinary Specialists in Sandy Springs, GA in 2018.

Following her internships, Dr. Sandler returned to the Cornell University Hospital for Animals and completed a three-year residency program in Neurology from 2019-2021. Dr. Sandler achieved her DACVIM (Neurology) board-certification in 2021. She particularly enjoys treating immune-mediated inflammatory diseases (MUE), as well as intervertebral disc disease.

**Please call us with any questions and for appointment availability: (412) 373-4200**