



BRISBANE BIRD & EXOTICS  
VETERINARY SERVICE

*Quality Care in Sickness and in Health*



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## Microchipping

### Introduction

Microchipping is a permanent means of identification for your pet. Microchips are implanted either subcutaneously (under the skin) or intramuscularly (into a particular muscle), dependent upon the species and size of the patient. For small or wriggly patients, the microchip may need to be placed under general anaesthetic. Patients are required to undergo a thorough physical examination with one of our veterinarians prior to being placed under general anaesthetic.

### The Chip

Microchips first became available in the late 1980's, and have remained the same size for over 20 years. The standard microchip measures 12mm long x 2.12mm wide.



In recent years advances in technology have seen the development of a new minichip measuring 8.5mm long x 1.4mm wide (roughly the size of a grain of rice).

Here at Brisbane Bird and Exotics Veterinary Service your pet will be implanted with the smaller minichip. The benefits to your pet include:

- The needle used to implant the minichip is 40% smaller than the needle used to implant the standard microchip
- This smaller needle size means implantation of the minichip is less invasive
- Due to its size and weight, the minichip is less likely to migrate.

**\*Always keep your pet's microchip number close at hand, and remember that microchips are used to identify the owner of a pet once it is found, they do not have GPS capabilities.**

### How It Works

Microchips work by storing data on a Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Transponder, which is encapsulated in a biomedical glass casing. The transponder does not have an independent power source, and relies on a scanner to activate it. When a scanner is passed within range, the transponder emits a signal that is picked up by the scanner, and displayed onscreen as a 15 digit number. This number is unique to your pet, and is used by authorised persons to access the pet and owner's details by contacting the appropriate registry.

- Ensure that your contact details are up to date with Australasian Animal Registry. This is the nationwide database upon which your contact details are recorded when your pet is microchipped at Brisbane Bird and Exotics Veterinary Service. A microchip is only effective if the contact details recorded on this database are correct.
- Australasian Animal Registry  
Locked Bag 4317  
Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2127  
Ph: 02 9704 1450 / Fax: 02 9704 1006  
help@aar.org.au

**\*Remember to immediately update your contact details any time they change.**

In the event that your pet goes missing, immediately notify:

- your regular veterinary clinic
- local veterinary clinics
- specialist veterinary clinics
- RSPCA
- your local council

These organisations will ask for your details and those of your pet, including microchip number.

