

Alivecor/Kardia Handout

If you have an iPhone or Android, you may want to explore the option of purchasing an AliveCor/Kardia ECG monitor which will allow you to record and email your pet's heart rate and rhythm at home.

The device (Kardia) can be purchased at www.alivecor.com or www.amazon.com. The app for your phone is free.

If you have an iPhone:

- Search for '**Veterinary AliveECG**' app in the Apple Store
- You will need to sign-up for an account
- If the app asks for permission to access headphone port/speaker portal, say '**OK/allow**'

If you have an Android:

- Search for '**Kardia**' app in the Google Playstore
- You will need to sign-up for an account.
- If the app asks for permission to access headphone port/speaker portal, say '**OK/allow**'
- Once downloaded, it will require you to send a "test ECG" for activation of the app. Just place your fingers on the silver sensors and let it record
- If the test ECG is unable to record, try again, with less movement. If it still fails, then your phone is not compatible with the device

Recording an ECG:

- Apply rubbing alcohol to the chest region behind your pet's elbow (where you can feel the heartbeat)
 - Enough to wet the regions where both silver boxes will touch the animal
- If your pet is fluffy, you may have to clip a small patch of fur to allow for better contact
- Hold the device against your pet's chest with the silver areas being up and down (vertical) in contact with the animal
- With the app open, hold your phone near (within a few inches) the device.
 - There is a signal bar in the upper left corner of the app to show whether it detects the device. If there are no bars then move your phone around/get closer to the device until they appear.
 - Sometimes the signal is better with the top or bottom of the phone closer to the device.
- Once you see a recording, hold everything in place for at least 30 seconds if possible.
- ***The human Kardia app will attempt to interpret the ECG; just ignore this as it is not always accurate.***
- ***The heart rate that the apps report is also not always accurate.***

Saving an ECG:

- The app will automatically save the ECG as long as the recording is long enough (>20seconds)
- You can click on the ID (box with pencil icon) in the Veterinary AliveECG app to add your pet's name