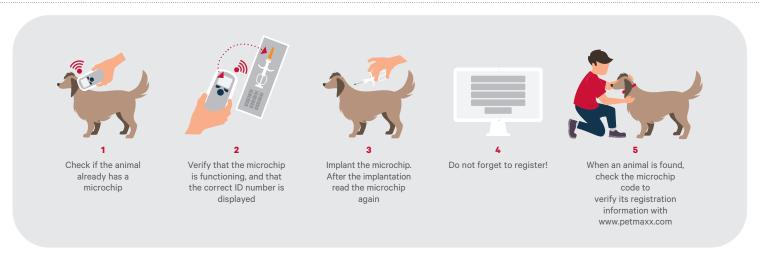
# Implantation and Scanning Instructions





# **Correct Implantation Procedure**



## **Microchip Scanning Instructions and Tips**

Global guidelines have been established to recommend implantation sites for microchips. Based on the animal type, geography and the microchipped species, these sites might vary. The common standard is a position on the left side of the neck OR between the shoulder blades.

Even if correctly implanted, microchips might not be easy to read. Below some tips to follow to facilitate this task:

- 1. Hold the scanner close to or touching the animal skin/fur.
- 2. For optimal reading, keep the scanner parallel to the animal's body (fig. 1) and avoid pointing towards it.
- **3.** If a chip is not detected the first time, try scanning each animal multiple times and not only in the recommended implantation sites, as microchips may have moved reaching the neck, breast or legs:
  - Slowly wave the scanner back and forth while scanning; microchips can be located in various orientations within the animal.
  - Scan the animal performing a vertical "S" pattern down the animal's body or animal side starting from the neck, as shown in fig. 1 and fig. 2.
- 4. If a chip is not detected the first time, try scanning each animal more than once and not only in the recommended implantation sites because microchips might have moved.

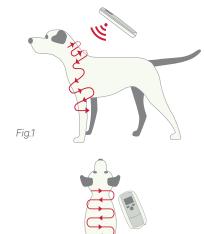


Fig.2

# Effective scanning might take some time, be patient! Follow these tips and make effective scanning easy! Additional tips:

- 1. Metal can interfere with microchip signals. Try to scan away from metal exam tables, metal doors, metal desks (collar tags or leash connectors should not be a problem)
- 2. Scanning through a metal or metal mesh cage will probably interfere with reading.
- 3. Not all readers have the same performance. Make sure to use certified and high-quality readers.

## **Recommended Implantation Sites**



#### Dogs and cats:

There are two standardized injection sites for microchip implantation in dogs & cats:

- Subcutaneously in the dorsal midline just cranial to the scapulae
- On the left hand side of the neck, subcutaneously in the midway region.



#### Fishes:

Implant the microchip in the midline, cranial to the dorsal fin.



#### Horses and other equidae:

Implant the chip on the left side of the animal, in the middle third of the neck, 3-4cm below the crest. Clip and prepare the site aseptically, as for any surgical procedure. Insert the needle to its full depth into the nuchal ligament, at an angle of 90° to the neck. Apply digital pressure to the implant site as you remove the needle. It is not usually necessary to use sedation or local anaesthesia, however this may need to be considered, depending on the age and temperament of the individual animal.



#### Birds:

Implant the microchip in the left pectoral muscle. Microchips may be placed in the conscious bird if the handler is confident of effective restraint.

If not, general anaesthesia may be considered, to allow correct placement of the chip and to reduce trauma to the bird. Inject the chip 1cm lateral to the keel and 1cm cranial to the caudal rim of the keel



#### Camelids:

Implant the chip on the left side of the neck, a hand's breadth below the ear. Insert needle at a 45° angle to the skin to place the chip into the cervical muscle or the nuchal ligament. Use full needle depth in an adult llama, but less depth with alpacas and crias. (Avoid inserting the chip into the area of the cervical vertebrae of the spinal column).



#### Lizards:

For most species, implant the chip in the left quadriceps muscle, or subcutaneously over this area. For very small lizards, implant it subcutaneously on the left hand side of the body.



#### Large mammals:

Implant the chip subcutaneously in the left mid-neck region.





#### **Snakes:**

Implant the microchip in the left nape of the neck, subcutaneously at twice the length of the head from the tip of the nose.



#### **Primates:**

An alternative site for primates is the back of the hand (metacarpal) or foot (metatarsal).

This is suitable if the animal can be trained to present hands or feet through cage bars.



It is strongly recommended that any implanted food-producing animal should carry an external means of indicating that it has been implanted with a microchip. This ensures the chip can be recognised and recovered at slaughter. In some cases, microchipping might not be permitted. If in doubt, contact the relevant local authorities. For reptiles, it is recommended that all needle entry sites are sealed with tissue glue. Implant hibernating species several weeks before the end of their active season, to allow healing before hibernation.



