



SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES IN THE VETERINARY BLOOD LABORATORY

Sustainable resource use is becoming increasingly important, even in veterinary clinics. In blood laboratories, where many analyses and diverse equipment are used daily, conscious practices can save energy and protect the environment. Using energy-efficient technologies, sustainable materials, and optimized workflows reduces the ecological footprint and operating costs without sacrificing diagnostic quality.

Energy-efficient laboratory equipment and optimised operation

- ▶ Use energy-efficient devices (blood analyzers, centrifuges, refrigerators, microscopes) with low standby power.
- ▶ Prefer automatic switch-off systems and timers to avoid unnecessary energy use.
- ▶ Run equipment only when needed to save power.
- ▶ Maintain refrigerators and freezers regularly: defrost often and avoid overfilling.
- ▶ Organize storage well and use temperature-stable storage media to minimize energy waste.

Sustainable Use of Consumables

- ▶ Reduce disposable waste by using reusable alternatives where possible.
- ▶ Choose biodegradable or recyclable consumables when disposables are necessary.
- ▶ Handle chemicals carefully: dose precisely and dispose responsibly.
- ▶ Opt for environmentally friendly reagents and plan analyses to reduce reagent use.

Optimised Lighting, Heating & Ventilation

- ▶ Replace fluorescent lights with LED lighting to reduce electricity by up to 80%.
- ▶ Use motion detectors or timers to limit lighting to when it's needed.
- ▶ Operate heating and ventilation with intelligent thermostats and demand-based controls.
- ▶ Ensure good insulation to prevent heat loss.

Sustainable Waste Management & Recycling

- ▶ Implement clear waste separation for biological, chemical, and recyclable waste.
- ▶ Participate in recycling programs for plastics and chemical containers.
- ▶ Use water-saving fittings or closed-loop systems to reduce water consumption.



Small, practical steps in equipment choice, consumable use, lighting, heating, and waste management can significantly reduce environmental impact and costs in veterinary blood laboratories, benefiting both patient care and the planet.

