



## **The Brainstem Auditory Evoked Reponse Test**

The Brainstem Auditory Evoked Response test measures the ability to hear the auditory nerve to the brainstem. It is the gold standard test for the detection of congenital deafness which occurs in many breeds. Most of the breeds affected have a white or partially white coat. The gene and appearance are described as piebals. The equipment we use is the same as in many human hospitals. The pet has tiny electrodes placed at the base of the ears and on the top part of the back of the head. Earphones are placed and a clicking sound is produced at various levels to stimulate the nerve impulse that is read by the machine. The test can also be used to detect deafness in adult pets but since our pets are such a variety of sizes and some pets do not cooperate it is difficult to judge the level of hearing loss.