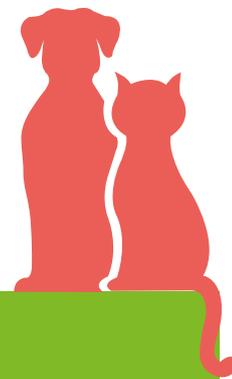


# COVID 19: You and Your Vet

Both national and local lockdowns have changed the way we all work, and this includes your veterinary team. Vet teams are working extremely hard to ensure they can still care for your pet during the pandemic. Things might not be what you have been used to and veterinary practices have had to restrict access to their clinics, but your vet will be there for you and your pet when you need them the most, so please be patient whilst they do their best to help you.



## How your vet service has changed

### During lockdown:

- Government guidelines meant vets had to reduce routine appointments and treatments
- Emergency care was their priority
- You may have become concerned about your pet's ongoing health issues
- Some of your pet's important preventive treatments may have been delayed and you need to arrange
- Circumstances have changed: you may be worried about paying for veterinary treatment

### Changes to COVID-19 restrictions may mean:

- You need to have a telephone or virtual consultation before or instead of a face to face consultation
- You receive a written or email prescription for medicines from a pharmacy rather than directly from your vet
- You have received your pet's medicines and treatments by post
- You drop off your pet outside the clinic and don't go in with them
- You may need advice from your vet for pet anxiety or stress-related conditions



## Professional Help

General advice is available from the [BVA](#), [BSAVA](#) and [BEVA](#) along with [COVID-19](#) resources and general advice

If you are worried that you might not be able to afford veterinary treatment and your pet may suffer, check the eligibility criteria to receive help from [PDSA](#), or [Blue Cross](#) or your local RSPCA branch



## What can you do?

- If you have a [new pet](#) seek advice from your vet about their health needs
- Speak to your veterinary practice about how best to get back on track with your pet's treatments
- Consider signing up to a vet practice annual health plan and pet insurance to spread any costs
- Try to avoid cancelling any existing health plans or insurance as it may cost more in the long-term
- Consider using a virtual consultation to get professional advice from your vet
- If your vet asks for photos or videos, check to ensure they are not blurred and show the area of concern
- [Monitor](#) your pet's weight to alert you to any unexpected changes in health
- Look out for any unusual symptoms or [changes](#) in your pet and contact your vet to ensure there are no underlying medical issues
- You may be able to apply for help with veterinary costs if you meet certain [eligibility criteria](#)
- Speak to your vet if you are struggling to meet ongoing costs as other treatment options may be available
- Check and make sure you use veterinary medicines [authorised](#) for your type of pet, and only for the pet that they were prescribed for. Check with your vet if unsure



Visit the [CFSG Pet Advice page](#)

[www.cfsg.org.uk/coronavirus](http://www.cfsg.org.uk/coronavirus)

