

# Veterinary Treatment During the Pandemic

## Overview

- During the pandemic, most vet practices have had to change the way they work due to protect public health and comply with government guidance.
- Many are consulting via phone, posting medications, and some, such as PDSA, have had to pause routine and preventive services such as neutering, vaccinations and microchipping to keep their staff free to care for the sickest pets.
- However, despite these challenging times, vets are still working hard to keep the nations pets fit and healthy, so don't hesitate to contact yours if your pet becomes unwell.
- Please be patient and remember that your vet practice is working very hard under incredibly difficult circumstances.

## Remote consults



Remote consultations are consults that are provided to an owner without them needing to see a vet face to face, for example a telephone or video consultation. Remote consults enable vets and nurses to continue treating pets through even the toughest lockdown restrictions. A remote consultation enables you to get help from the comfort of your own home, reduces the risk of Covid-19 spread, and is likely to be much less stressful for your pet. PDSA

are currently offering telephone consults with a vet or nurse to all [eligible clients](#) with non-urgent problems, and have a limited number of hospital appointments reserved for emergencies and the sickest pets.

## Online Advice - Pet Health Hub

[Visit the Pet Health Hub](#)

PDSA's [Pet Health Hub](#) provides free, reliable, pet health information, written by vets - the place to go if you are looking for quick, easy to digest information about your pet's health.

## Flea and Worm treatment

[Treating Fleas - Dogs](#)

[Treating Fleas - Cats](#)

[Treating Fleas - Rabbits](#)

[Treating Worms - Dogs](#)

[Treating Worms - Cats](#)

If like PDSA, your veterinary practice isn't able to dispense your dog's usual prescription flea and worm treatment at this time, try contacting other clinics in your area to see if they can help. If this isn't possible, you may need to consider using a non-prescription product (from a pet shop, or [online](#)) until your vet is operating a full service again. If your pet has lots of fleas, hasn't responded to a previous flea treatment or has a skin condition, contact your vet to discuss your options. Read more about treating fleas and worms by using the links above.

## Vaccinations

[Dog vaccines during lockdown](#)

[Cat vaccines during lockdown](#)

[Rabbit vaccines during lockdown](#)

During the pandemic, many vets have needed to prioritise treating sick and injured pets over routine procedures such as vaccinations. However, it's still important to keep your pet protected against the deadly diseases that we vaccinate against. If like PDSA, your vet is currently unable to vaccinate your pet, you may need to contact other clinics in your area to see if they can help.

If you are unable to have your pet vaccinated, it's important to know how to keep them safe - for more information, follow the links above.

## Neutering

[Dog neutering during lockdown](#)

[Cat neutering during lockdown](#)

[Rabbit neutering during lockdown](#)

During the pandemic, many vets have had to delay routine procedures such as neutering. But neutering is still important to keep your pet healthy and prevent unwanted pregnancies, so if, like PDSA, your vet is unable to neuter your pet at present, you will need to contact other clinics in your area to see if they are able to help. If this isn't possible, it's important to keep your pet safe while they are unneutered - for more information, follow the links above.

## Microchipping

If you've been unable to have your pet microchipped during the pandemic, you may want to try contacting other vet clinics, charities and your local dog warden to see if they are able to help. PDSA have had to stop offering microchipping appointments at the moment to focus our limited resources on treating sick and injured pets.

## Registering a new pet with your vet

If you are considering getting a new pet, it's even more important to consider if you'll be able to provide for their needs, both during the pandemic and for the rest of their life. It's a good idea to make sure you can register them with a vet before you think about bringing them home - some vets across the country have been overwhelmed with work during the pandemic, and as a result have had to temporarily stop registering new clients which means if you take on a new pet, you may not be able to get them the veterinary care they need after you've brought them home.

Published: Dec 2020