

Date: _____

VETERINARY COVID-19 SAFETY CHECKLIST

This checklist offers a set of rules that your practice can follow to maintain safer operation during the current pandemic. It should only serve as a guide and our recommendations should only be applied if they follow the regulations provided by your local veterinary health authorities and government.

Practice

Before opening the practice:

- Upgrade cleaning protocols throughout the practice (disinfect everything)
- Stock up on PPE inventory: face masks, gloves, disinfecting hand gel, soap, cleaning alcohol, paper towels
- Set up a safe waste management system
- Set up body temperature measuring devices such as infrared thermometers
- Produce the appropriate floor markings to indicate distance and direction
- Produce handouts, signs and posters to inform all employees and clients of safety measures
- Rearrange the working schedule/shifts to accommodate the social distancing efforts
- Arrange training on health and safety for employees

Before closing the practice:

- Disinfect all practice equipment including front desk telephones
- Empty all trash cans safely with COVID-19 measures in mind
- Ensure all pet owner contact points are disinfected
- Wipe down the workstations, especially if these are shared with another veterinarian
- Clean and disinfect wash rooms

Remind Employees

On arrival to:

- Wash or sanitize hands thoroughly
- Wear a safe face mask
- Uphold 1.5 meters of social distancing from pet owners and other employees
- Measure temperature to check for fever
- Inform practice if involved in recent travel
- Inform if any family member has symptoms of COVID-19 (cough or fever)

During practice hours to:

- Wash and/or disinfect hands every hour
- Use the break room upholding social distancing
- Take sick leave if feeling unwell
- Disinfect hands before and after every treatment and pet owner contact
- Monitor the status of health and wellbeing individually and report if any symptoms faced

When leaving the practice to:

- Wash or sanitize hands thoroughly
- Ensure a face mask is worn if required by local law
- Uphold 1.5 meters of social distancing from strangers during travel
- Measure temperature to check for fever
- Avoid traveling abroad to countries with high COVID-19 case rates
- Inform practice if any household member has symptoms of COVID-19 (cough or fever)

Employees In Quarantine

- Try to ensure sick leave can be available to employees who need to be quarantined
- If required by local laws, close the practice if an employee is diagnosed with COVID-19
- Set up a task force with employees to support the quarantined staff and their families
- Set up procedures to enable remote work where possible
- In the event that the practice is closed due to quarantining staff - communicate with customers via email, social and website

Advise Pet Owners

On arrival to:

- Wash or sanitize hands thoroughly
- Wear a safe face mask
- Uphold 1.5 meters of social distancing from other pet owners and veterinarians
- Measure temperature to check for fever
- Inform practice if they have symptoms of COVID-19
- Disinfect patient belongings
- Confront if any family member has symptoms of COVID-19 (cough or fever)

After the treatment to:

- Wash and/or disinfect hands if touched any equipment at the practice or veterinarian contact
- Uphold 1.5 meters of social distancing from strangers during travel
- Measure temperature to check for fever
- Offer to pay via bank transfer or any online payment process to avoid contact with staff
- Offer telemedicine service for the next consultation if available to avoid travels
- Ensure a face mask is worn