

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF BUSINESS

OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

Thank you for entrusting the care and attention of your pet to Bicester Vets. We will endeavour, at all times, to provide you with a very high standard of veterinary treatment and care. Our focus is the health and wellbeing of your pets as well as the wishes of you as the owner.

FEES AND PAYMENT

All fees, diets and drug charges are subject to VAT at the current rate. Fee levels are determined by the time spent on a case plus the drugs, materials and consumables used. Details of our fees are available on request. Fees are due for settlement at the end of the consultation, the discharge of your pet from hospital or upon collection of prescriptions or diets. You may settle the account using cash, cheque or credit/debit cards. A detailed printed receipt is available on request. Please retain all receipts.

ESTIMATES OF TREATMENT COSTS

We will happily provide an estimate of costs for treatment; however, this can only be a guide, as often a pet's illness will not follow a conventional course. We will endeavour to keep you informed of costs along the way especially when it seems likely that an estimate may be exceeded.

SETTLEMENT TERMS

If for any reason settlement has not been made at the time of treatment an account will be issued at the end of the month. Should this account not be paid then administration fees will be added. If the debt remains outstanding it will be referred to a debt collection agency and further charges will be levied in respect of costs incurred in collecting the debt such as correspondence, court fees, phone calls etc. Any cheque returned to us unpaid or credit card not honoured will result in the original account being reinstated with further charges added to cover bank charges and administrative costs.

INABILITY TO PAY

If for any reason you are unable to settle your account in full, we ask you to discuss the matter with a member of staff as soon as possible. Please note that instalments or part payments may ONLY be sanctioned with the express permission of a Director and please note that these are not routinely offered.

PET HEALTH INSURANCE

Bicester Vets strongly supports the principle of insuring your pet against an unexpected accident or illness. Please ask for details about insurance from one of our receptionists. Please be aware that it remains your responsibility to settle your account with us then reclaim the fees from your insurance company. Under Financial Services Authority rules we are not able to deal directly with your insurance company (unless it is Petplan). We can fill out specified sections of your claim form and write reports to you to help back up a claim.

COMPLAINTS

We hope that you never have recourse to complain about the standards of service received from Bicester Vets. However, if you do, we would gratefully receive your letter addressed to The Directors and will endeavour to reply and investigate complaints promptly.

FEEDBACK

We are always pleased to receive feedback whether it is good or bad. Please feel free to give us your thoughts so that we at Bicester Vets can continue to improve our service.

OWNERSHIP OF RECORDS

Case records including radiographs and similar documents are the property of, and will be retained by, Bicester Vets. Copies will only be passed on to another veterinary surgeon taking over the case.

DISPENSING OF MEDICINES

Prescriptions are available from this practice. You may obtain Prescription Only Medicines, Category V (POM Vs) from your veterinary surgeon or ask for a prescription and obtain these medicines from another veterinary surgeon or a pharmacy. Your veterinary surgeon may only prescribe POM Vs following a clinical assessment of an animal under his or her care. A prescription may not be appropriate if your animal is an in-patient or immediate treatment is necessary.

The general policy of this practice is to re-assess any animal requiring repeat prescriptions every 3-6 months, but this will vary with individual circumstances. There is a standard charge for this re-examination as outlined in our prices sheet. Please ask if you require further clarification of this point as each individual situation is different.

No addition or variation of these Conditions will bind the Practice unless specifically agreed in writing and signed by one of the Directors. No agent or person employed by, or under contract with the Practice has the authority to alter or vary these Conditions in any way.