

Care Vet Group newsletter

ISSUE 8

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Hugh's News



Dr. Hugh McIntosh

Special offer – October only!

During the month of October we are offering a complimentary **Full Pre Anaesthetic Blood Profile** valued at **\$75.35** to all animals being de-sexed.

To receive this offer you will need to download the voucher from www.carevetgroup.com.au/specialoffer and bring it in on the day.

General Care Vet News



Rebecca Ireland

We have just purchased a new state of the art Ultrasound machine for the diagnostic care of our patients. This machine will enable us to diagnose internal problems early with a much improved non-invasive procedure. We are also able to perform routine pregnancy ultrasounds.

Thank you to all our wonderful clients who sent in the gorgeous photos of their special companions. The competition has closed and the photos are being judged. Winners will be notified early this month. Winners will be published in November's Newsletter.

We currently have a staff of 22 with 7 vets and 14 nurses and support staff; of which 18 are female. We endeavour to create a good work/home balance for all of our staff, to assist them with juggling family and work commitments. Unfortunately, this means that we don't always have the same team scheduled to work every day, so you may sometimes visit us and see a different veterinarian and nurse. We strive to offer excellence in continuity of care, which means that our record keeping is thorough enough for our veterinarian to review the case and continue the correct path of treatment. However, if bookings are not an emergency and you would like to see someone specific, we can arrange that – please ask.

Congratulations! We WON!

As some of you may be aware Care Vet Group scooped the pool in September at the Toowoomba Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Awards winning our Category, Division, and the big one – Business of the Year!

Well Done Team!

Farewell to Dr. Carol Smith who is leaving us in October to work within her husband's large animal practice. We hope to see Carol back from time to time. Welcome to Dr. Helen White who will be starting with us on Monday 5 October. Helen is a great Veterinarian with a Teaching background which will benefit our team greatly during training sessions and professional development.



Business of the year 2009

CARE VETERINARY GROUP

Visit our website to learn how to best care for your pet >
www.carevetgroup.com.au

grooming gossip!

Grooming is booked up 3 weeks in advance at present. Christmas is less than 2 months away! So book now to avoid disappointment. Please ask about our 'Canine Coat Colouring' for the festive season.

Breed Profile



Breed	Afghan Hound
Temperament	Alert, active and aloof
Lifespan	12 – 14 years
Maintenance	Medium – high
Utilization	Sight hound
Size	25 – 29 inches (at the shoulders)



Jessica
Dunlop

de-sexing dilemma



Dr Daniel
van Geuns

Deciding whether or not to de-sex your pet dog or cat can be difficult, particularly due to the wide range of opinion and advice that can be found online. The purpose of this article is to provide some general guidelines to help you make the decision, while acknowledging that it is a choice that is made on a case by case basis. There are a number of factors that need to be considered, such as your pet's age, breed, sex, intended use, household environment and temperament – as such we recommend seeking veterinary advice when you are making the decision.

Sex hormones have a number of positive health effects in both dogs and cats. Entire animals have a decreased risk of certain types of cancer, some types of urinary tract disease, diabetes and cranial cruciate ligament rupture. Sex hormones also have a number of negative effects on health, namely an increased risk of mammary, prostatic, and testicular cancer, an increased risk of an infection in the uterus, and of other prostatic diseases in male dogs.

There are also behavioural pros and cons that need to be considered. There may be a decreased incidence of cognitive dysfunction in intact male and female dogs, intact cats may show a decrease in shyness compared to their de-sexed counterparts, and spayed bitches may show an increase in aggression following de-sexing. The negative sex hormone effects on behaviour are an increase in aggression between entire dogs, urine spraying and inter-male aggression in entire cats,



and wandering behaviour in both male and female dogs.

After considering the available research, we have come to adopt the following general guidelines. We recommend de-sexing of all non-breeding bitches and queens at 6 months of age, before their first season, to take full advantage of the reduced risk of mammary tumours (breast cancer). 60% of mammary tumours in dogs, and 90% in cats, are malignant – they will spread to other parts of the body. The other major benefits of spaying at 6 months are reducing the risk of pyometra (an infection in the uterus), wandering behaviour, and unwanted pregnancy.

Our recommendations for castration are similar; we feel that it is in the best interest of your pet's health to be castrated at 6 months of age. The major benefits are a reduction in wandering behavior and associated accidents on the road, the elimination of testicular cancer risk, and a decrease in the likelihood of prostate disease.

There is no one-size-fits-all advice when it comes to deciding whether or not to de-sex your pet, so in order to take into account your personal situation please consult your vet.

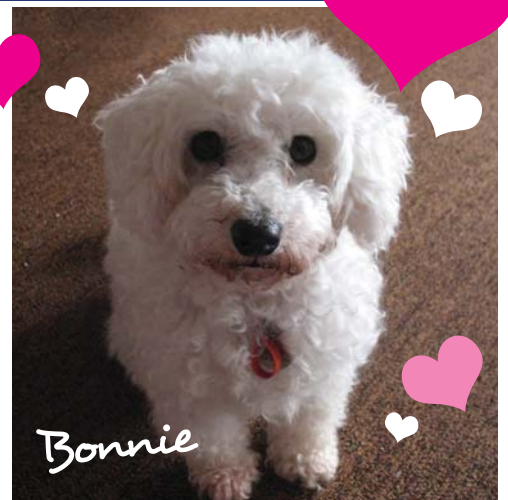
my dog / my cat "We love her a lot!"

Our dog, Bonnie, is a Maltese X Poodle. Bonnie was 18 months when we got her. She is now 4 years old. Bonnie is the first dog our family has ever had. Bonnie is an 'inside' dog and loves curling up on the woollen rug we have in our lounge. She also sleeps in a pink basket in my brother's room. Bonnie has a warm and loving personality. Bonnie loves being hugged and tickled under her chin and on the top of her head.

When we first got Bonnie she was not looked after and very neglected. We washed and groomed her and gave her an all-over clip as

her hair was matted really badly. My mum and I taught her to sit and at night time to go outside and do a 'wee'. My brother Sam taught her to lay. Bonnie gets spoilt a lot. Once a week or sometimes every second week my Dad and I wash Bonnie. Soon after we got Bonnie she had to have a major operation on her hind left leg because she had a faulty cruciate ligament.

Bonnie loves going for walks around our block with me every day. She likes getting attention from everyone. We love her a lot! – Owner, Laura



Bonnie

CARE
VETERINARY
GROUP

Chandlers Animal Hospital
> 4636 2233
cnr Alderley & Ramsay Sts Toowoomba

South Toowoomba Vets
> 4635 3616
366 Stenner St Toowoomba

Visit our website > www.carevetgroup.com.au