

## Cats Protection discount scheme

I am writing to ask if you will support your local Cats Protection team by signing up to use our range of veterinary discount schemes. Due to our charity status and the volume of products Cats Protection purchases across the UK, we have been able to arrange substantial discounts with some providers. The savings that you can help us to achieve will enable us to care for more cats across the country and increase our standards of care.

All schemes are easy to set up by completing a short application. Once in place, all the invoices via these schemes will be paid directly by Cats Protection rather than having to be charged to Cats Protection by the practice.

Cats Protection understands that you may still need to charge your normal mark-up on drugs and blood test kits, as well as for your time. By using our wholesaler and laboratory discount schemes, we will still make a significant saving.

## Wholesaler scheme

By purchasing products directly from our wholesaler, we are able to benefit from wholesaler prices and the discounts we have in place from manufacturers. However, because this area requires close monitoring to ensure it is used correctly and in accordance with the Veterinary Medicines Regulations, we request that a form is completed and signed by the vet before an account is set up.

Local Cats Protection teams are supplied with pre-printed wholesaler order forms. They can order any non-prescription products such as litter and food. Vets can consult the local Cats Protection teams about any regularly-used prescription drugs required for Cats Protection cats which may be added to the order. Find a list of these commonly ordered products here or visit cats.org.uk/help-and-advice/information-for-vets. The main products ordered are vaccines and flea and worm treatments. Local Cats Protection teams may also ask you to order a small quantity of medications such as antibiotics and non-steroidal anti-inflammatories. It is not recommended to order in injectable medications through this scheme as it is unlikely these will be used up within a 28-day period after broaching. Regardless of what is being ordered, the order form must be signed and stamped by a veterinary surgeon unless using the online ordering portal.

The order can be scanned and emailed to Covetrus where it is placed using an automated system. Alternatively, an online order form can be used to order products for cats in Cats Protection care. The order will be delivered to the practice the next working day except when vaccines are ordered on a Friday (no deliveries take place over weekends). These will be delivered the following Tuesday due to storage temperature requirements. All orders must be placed via the Cats Protection/wholesaler order forms.

Cats Protection Clinical Services
01825 741 991 | veterinary@cats.org.uk | cats.org.uk



The order should be checked off as normal. All POM-Vs should be stored at the practice until dispensed for Cats Protection cats and any other non-prescription products can be collected by the local Cats Protection team.

We would not expect the local Cats Protection team to store large quantities of medications at your practice, usually a small box of medications and a tray of vaccines is sufficient. The appropriate batch recording of POM-Vs dispensed (as advised by the VMD) is the responsibility of the veterinary practice, as per your normal POM-V deliveries.

Products purchased through the wholesaler are for use on Cats Protection cats only. An exception is made for cats who have been homed by Cats Protection and are being given their second vaccination using a Cats Protection purchased vaccine. Rarely cats are homed with an ongoing treatment agreement that may cover the cost of medications. Medications on the ongoing treatment agreement may be bought from the wholesaler scheme, but any other medication the cat receives should come from your normal stock. In all other circumstances, products purchased through the wholesaler scheme must not be used for non-Cats Protection cats and must not be sold or donations asked for.

Even though the delivery is made directly to the veterinary practice, it has been stressed to local Cats Protection teams that if prescription-only products are ordered without veterinary authorisation they will not be able to continue using this discounted service. Due to the legal implications for the charity and the vet, if the scheme is not used appropriately, the facility will be withdrawn.

Cats Protection has negotiated a substantial discount on Speed Duo FeLV/FIV blood testing kits; these are ordered through the wholesaler.

Finn laboratory discount scheme

Finn Pathologists have kindly offered Cats Protection a charity-discounted, tailor-made laboratory service for cats in our care. Once a brief application form has been completed and sent by email to Cats Protection, Finn will send out a pack with the necessary submission forms, tubes and other consumables to use their services.

The local Cats Protection team name and vet practice address information on the forms will be prefilled and your preferred method of receiving results will be set up in advance. Further information can be found on the Finn website here.

Following submission of a sample to Finn with a completed Cats Protection form, the results will be sent directly to the practice, but the invoice for the test will be sent directly to the Cats Protection Accounts team for payment.

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Consumables should be stored at the practice and replacement consumables can be ordered when required.

While the consumables themselves are free there is a carriage fee for delivering the consumables of £6 per order. We would advise placing larger orders less frequently in order to keep the number of carriage charges to a minimum. These charges will be invoiced to the Cats Protection Accounts team for payment in the same way as the tests.

FIV confirmatory testing should be sent to Bristol University (Langford Veterinary Services) for PCR and FeLV confirmatory testing should be sent to Glasgow University for real-time PCR (to confirm an in-clinic positive test). Further details of our FIV/FeLV testing procedures can be found on the Cats Protection website or by contacting the Cats Protection Clinical Services team.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information and consider these schemes. Cats Protection is probably the UK's largest cat client with an average spend of around £10 million a year on veterinary fees alone. We would like to extend our thanks to you again for your continued support, which makes a huge difference to the health and wellbeing of thousands of cats.

Should you have any queries regarding these schemes and if you would like to receive our discount scheme application forms, please don't hesitate to contact the Cats Protection Clinical Services team on 01825 741 991 or at veterinary@cats.org.uk

With kindest regards

Yours sincerely

Alison Richards BVSc MRCVS

Head of Clinical Services

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