



Dr. Mulder is the owner and medical director of the Pet Hospital, located at 403 Fairview Drive in Brantford. With the goal of treating the 'whole' patient, his experience in emergency medicine, nutrition and 13 years as a general practitioner in this area, he leads the team as they strive to serve with excellence and compassion. This advice column is part of the vision to enable loving pet owners to make wise decisions in the care of their family's pet. If you have a question for Dr. Mulder, please send an email to drmulder@fairviewpet.ca or call the Pet Hospital at 519-753-7257.

DR. MULDER CARES FOR YOUR PETS "WHEN SHOULD YOU CALL THE VET?"

Q: Dear Dr. Mulder: As a good pet owner trying to manage the budget, when is the best time to call when my pet is sick. Do pets have "off days" or "the 24hour flu"? My dog was sick for a few days but I thought it would go away. It didn't, so I ended up with an after hours call. What should I do?

Dr. Mulder: Many people struggle with that. I have worked in three veterinary emergency hospitals and many times the owners had booked an appointment for the next day but the problem got so bad they needed an emergency visit. If you notice that your pet is ill, call right away! Both cats and dogs live in a "dog eat dog" "cat scratch cat" world. To show weakness or pain means you either become somebody's lunch or you lose your territorial rights. I have seen brave dogs run with severe arthritis. If a human had the same problem, we would be complaining but even though they are feeling intense pain, they never show it as we expect. There are minor illnesses with pets that most people wouldn't notice. If the signs are bad enough for you to recognize, medical treatment is needed.

Also, what may seem like an innocent problem, like grooming of the "privates", to me indicates the potential for a urinary tract infection or blockage which can be a life threatening emergency. Just because you call doesn't mean you are committing the budget. Veterinary Technicians are trained to assist you in your decision. All of our staff are your allies in keeping your pet healthy. Remember that early detection of problems means less damage and less cost, not to mention the better health outcomes for your pet!

Health Care Isn't Just For Humans!

Fairview Drive Pet Hospital

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