

Preparing for your Appointment

Illness: Acute, Emergency or Urgent Appointment

Your pet has been scheduled for an “Emergency” appointment. This means that your pet has suddenly developed a condition or sustained an injury for which you are bringing him or her to the Veterinarian.

If your pet is having trouble breathing (struggling to breathe, bluish tinge to lips or skin, high pitched wheezing or excessive breathing efforts), having seizures or bleeding, please call the hospital for specific instructions on first aid and transportation.

Your Veterinary health care team may recommend that you take your pet immediately to an Urgent Care or Emergency facility. This recommendation is only made in situations in which your pet’s condition requires the expertise, facilities and staffing available at a referral institution.

Here are a few Pre-Examination Considerations that may help you and your pet prepare for this examination.

- Try to stay calm; this can be stressful to you and your pet. Your calm demeanor will help your pet to remain calm.
- Upon arrival to the hospital your pet may need to be IMMEDIATELY REMOVED AND TAKEN TO THE TREATMENT AREA in order to begin immediate care.***
 - This is meant to expedite care and not meant to exclude your input. We understand how much you care about your pet, however, the most important and helpful thing you can do is get vital information to our Veterinary staff.
- A complete medical history is vital in assisting your Banfield veterinarian to answer key questions regarding the illness and, if appropriate, history of treatment and response to this treatment in the past.
- You may use this short questionnaire to assist you in gathering the most useful and appropriate information to share with your Veterinarian.
 - What do you think is going on? _____
 - What did the condition look/act like when it first began? _____.
 - Have you given your pet any drugs or treatments at home? _____
 - If yes, which treatments have been used? _____
- Often, when seeing a pet with an acute condition your Banfield Veterinarian will need to perform tests in order to determine what is going on.
 - Unless otherwise directed by your Dr, please do not feed your pet for at least 2 hours prior to their appointment if possible. This way, if blood tests need to be performed, the blood sample is more likely to be of better quality.
 - Also, if at all possible, do not allow your pet to urinate prior to coming into the Banfield Hospital. This will allow there to be a fair amount of urine in the bladder for urine testing if needed.
- ALWAYS CONTACT YOUR VETERINARIAN IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT PREPARING FOR THE APPOINTMENT.**