

# CONNECT FOR CARE

## Congratulations on adopting your new pet!

Thank you for helping a shelter pet find the forever home they deserve. Now that your pet has found a forever home, it's time to find a forever veterinarian for a lifetime of health care!

Veterinarian members of the Colorado Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) and participating metro Denver area shelters have teamed up to offer you Connect for Care, a new program designed to ensure adopted shelter pets receive the health care they deserve.

### **Q How does Connect for Care work?**

**A** At the time of adoption, you will be invited to choose a participating veterinarian who has offered to provide a complimentary initial exam for your new pet. Call and **schedule this appointment right away!** If needed, the veterinarian will also provide care for certain designated medical needs for up to 14 days after adoption (see next page for details). Your new pet may also need follow up vaccines and other preventive care, and this is not included in the Connect for Care program.

### **Q How do I select a veterinary practice?**

**A** An adoption counselor will show you a map of participating practices and will ask you to select a conveniently located practice. The counselor will then fill out your Connect for Care Certificate. Remember to bring it with you to your pet's appointment.

### **Q What if I already have a veterinarian?**

**A** That's great news – veterinary care is very important for your pet! You may opt out of the Connect for Care program if you have a current veterinary relationship with a non-participating practice, or if you simply do not wish to participate in the program.

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**Q What type of post-adoption medical issues are covered through Connect for Care?**

**A** Your Connect for Care veterinarian will provide one complimentary physical examination, and, if needed, treatment for the following designated medical needs within the first 14 days of adoption:

- Upper respiratory infections
- Kennel cough
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea (**Including** intestinal parasites found on fecal testing, and **excluding** parvovirus)
- Initial treatments of skin, eye and ear infections (including those caused by ear mites)
- Treatment of complications from spay or neuter procedures performed by the shelter so long as general anesthesia is not required

The following medical needs and services are **excluded** from the Connect for Care program. You are responsible for 100% of these costs:

- Preventive care
- Vaccinations
- Microchip
- Heartworm test
- Parasite preventives
- Dental care
- Grooming
- Accident or injury
- Infectious diseases (e.g. distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus, influenza, ringworm, FIP, FeLV and FIV)
- Congenital or inherited diseases
- Chronic conditions such as, but not limited to, cancer, diabetes, and kidney disease
- Tumors, swellings, or growths
- Complications from spay or neuter procedures performed at shelter that require general anesthesia
- Care for other pets in the household that may become infected by the new pet

**Q What if I have questions about this program?**

**A** Ashley Larson, CVMA Connect for Care program director, is happy to help answer any questions you may have: [ashleylarson@colovma.org](mailto:ashleylarson@colovma.org) or 303.539.7646.

Thank you for adopting a shelter pet—your new veterinarian is looking forward to meeting you and your new pet!