

Stempy's Checklist

CHOOSING A VETERINARIAN ~ VETERINARIAN CHECKLIST ~ EXPRESS VERSION

1 PROSPECTIVE VETERINARIAN / FACILITY: _____

REFERRED BY: _____

BACKGROUND :

2 State Board Complaint Search Done? Yes No Comments: _____

3 Name Search - Internet Search Engine? Yes No Comments: _____

COMPLIANCE :

4 Is vet's license posted & easy to be seen? Yes No Comments: _____

5 Is vet's license current? Yes No Comments: _____

EXPERIENCE / EDUCATION :

6 Are the vet techs licensed? Yes No Comments: _____

7 Is vet experienced w/ your breed/pet type? Yes No Comments: _____

OFFICE HOURS, APPOINTMENTS, EMERGENCIES :

8 What are the vet's regular office hours? _____ Comments: _____

9 Are appointments required? Yes No Comments: _____

10 How are emergency calls handled after hours? _____ Comments: _____

11 Does this vet provide emergency after hours care? Yes No Referral? _____

12 If your pet is kept overnight, is a qualified person on duty to care for your pet? Yes No Comments: _____

PRACTICE ISSUES :

13 Does the vet utilize written consent forms? Yes No Comments: _____

14 Does the vet keep thorough records that you can easily purchase copies of? Yes No Comments: _____

15 Is pet EVER attended to by anyone other than a vet or licensed vet tech? Yes No Comments: _____

FEES & PAYMENT METHODS :

16 What are the fees for routine exam & vaccinations? _____ X-ray possible hip fracture? Heartworm treatment?

17 What types of payment are accepted? _____ Comments: _____

TOUR OF FACILITY :

18 Is operating & recovery area clean & sanitized? Yes No Comments: _____

19 Is exam room & kennel area clean & sanitized? Yes No Comments: _____

20 Is outdoor potty / exercise area safe & secure? Yes No Comments: _____

21 Is staff clean, friendly, helpful, & professional? Yes No Comments: _____

NOTES / OTHER QUESTIONS :

stempy.net

vetsfromhell.net

texasvetboardwatch.info

texasveterinaryrecords.com

STEMPY'S CHECKLIST - GUIDE / ANSWER KEY

- 1 Write down the prospective veterinarian's name in this box.
- 2 Check your State Board's Disciplinary Records to see if this veterinarian's name is listed.
- 3 Search this veterinarian's name in the major internet search engines (Google, MSN, Yahoo, etc.) to check for problems not in public records.
- 4 The veterinarian's license should be posted in a conspicuous place for all to see.
- 5 Check to make sure the veterinarian's license is valid and not expired.
- 6 Vet techs may handle your pet more than the veterinarian. Having a license indicates receiving formal training.
- 7 Make sure the veterinarian is experienced in dealing with your particular breed / pet.
- 8 The office hours should be convenient and compatible with your schedule.
- 9 If appointments are required, that requires you to plan ahead.
- 10 FIND OUT who answers the after hours calls.
- 11 Is the veterinarian available for any after hours emergency care? If not, find out and check out the referral.
- 12 Many vet practices leave the animals unattended to at night. Does this one?
- 13 This is helpful in making sure there is a clear understanding in just exactly what surgeries / procedures you have authorized.
- 14 Thorough records that are easily purchased are vital to your pet's future care by providing a thorough history and are extremely important in the event that something goes wrong.
- 15 Only a vet tech or veterinarian should have the skills necessary to properly look after your pet.
- 16 Compare fees with other veterinarians if cost is a factor, but beware of "Dr. Cheap Vet."
- 17 Better to know beforehand.
- 18 Self-explanatory
- 19 Self-explanatory
- 20 Can your pet escape when taken outside? Area should be secure to prevent this from happening.
- 21 Self-explanatory