



Mount Hutton
PET HOSPITAL

Paws, Claws and More

Mount Hutton Pet Hospital Newsletter

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FIV~Feline Aids Vaccination



FIV is a potentially fatal disease of cats that affects the immune system of a cat. FIV causes the disease known as Feline AIDS and is now considered the most serious disease that can affect your cat. Cats that roam or have access

to outdoors are at high risk of contracting FIV, as the disease is spread when an infected cat comes into contact with a healthy cat, mostly through biting and fighting.

As the disease progresses the immune system finds it hard to fight off infections and other diseases. As a result the cat can die from one of the subsequent infections. We can test your cat if you suspect it may have been exposed to FIV. There is no treatment or cure for this disease so prevention is highly recommended. This is done through a vaccine for FIV - Feline AIDS. Kittens and adult cats require 3 initial vaccinations and then a booster every 12 months to build up and maintain immunity against FIV.



Any cat that goes outside should be vaccinated against FIV.

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Easter & Anzac Day Pet Boarding

If you need your pet boarded over the Easter long weekend or Anzac Day long weekend, you will need to book in early.

We board all types of pets such as cats, dogs, birds, guinea pigs, rabbits, rats, mice and reptiles.

Limited Spaces Available.

What NOT to feed your pet!

We all like to give our pets a treat every now and then but we do have to be careful. Our pets aren't small humans as much as we treat them that way. Certain foods that we sometimes feed our pets aren't good for them.

Some foods that are dangerous for our pets are:

Pork Products- Ham, Bacon, chops etc. Our pets have trouble metabolising pig fat. The only pig products that are safe are the pigs ears and trotters as they are only a bit of cartilage.



Sausages, Cooked meats- cooked meat is a lot fattier than uncooked meat and again our pets have trouble metabolizing a lot of fat in their diets which can make them have attacks of Pancreatitis.

Onions and Garlic-When raw and in large quantities garlic and onion can make our pets very sick causing hemolytic (breakdown of red blood cells) anemia. Onion and garlic are best avoided all together.



Grapes and raisins- are also very dangerous for our pets even in small quantities. They cause our pets to get acute kidney failure, which can lead to death.

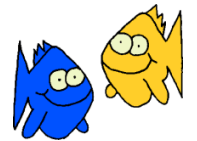
Macadamia Nuts- when eaten by our dogs can have serious effects. Symptoms usually occur about 12hrs after ingestion and include wobbly walking, depression, vomiting, muscle tremors, hyperthermia and an elevated heart rate.

Corn Cobs- We all like a bit of corn on the cob, so sweet and juicy. Now while giving corn to your pet is fine, corn on the cob is a big no no! Due to the shape of the cob and the rough texture, they often become lodged in the intestines and need to be surgically removed! The same goes for mango seeds and peach stones.



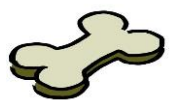
Cows Milk- Most animals are lactose intolerant and giving them cows milk even as a small treat can cause them stomach upsets and diarrhoea.

Fish only diets in cats- feeding your cat a fish only diet can lead to vitamin deficiencies, small amounts of fish occasionally are ok when combined with a balanced dry food.



Liver- feeding your cat a lot of liver can cause them to have too much vitamin A which can cause a lot of health problems such as spondylosis which is a crippling bone disease.

Cooked Bones- Never feed you dog or cat cooked bones. When bones are cooked they become brittle and can splinter while the pet is eating it. This can cause bone to be lodged in the pets mouth and cause them lacerations in the mouth and oesophagus.



Puppy Preschool

We are offering Puppy Preschool classes on Wednesday and Thursday Nights between 6-7pm. The course runs for 4 weeks. We teach you how to teach your puppy, we teach puppy some basic manners and you'll learn a lot and have a lot of fun while doing it!

Bookings are essential.



Breed Bio - Boxers

The **Boxer** originated in Germany in the late 1800's. It developed from the now extinct Bullenbeisser breed of Mastiff and Bulldog and was used for hunting purposes. The name "Boxer" is derived from the breed's tendency to play by standing on its hind legs and "boxing" with its front paws.

This breed is medium – large in size and short-haired, with a shiny, smooth coat. They therefore don't require grooming (only the occasional bath when they get too smelly.) The recognised colours are white, fawn, or brindle, often with a white underbelly and white on the front or all four feet.

They can be prone to a few genetic health concerns including skin lumps and cancers, heart conditions, hypothyroidism and hip dysplasia. Other conditions that could be caused by other factors (eg diet) include gastic dilation/bloat, intestinal problems and skin allergies.



Boxers are a bright, energetic and playful breed and tend to be very good with children. They are active dogs and require adequate exercise to prevent boredom-associated behaviours such as chewing or digging. Boxers have earned a slight reputation of being "headstrong," which can be related to inappropriate obedience training.

By nature they are not an aggressive or vicious breed, but they do need socialisation. Boxers are generally patient with smaller dogs and puppies, but have issues with larger adult dogs, especially those of the same sex. As puppies, Boxers demonstrate a fascinating combination of worrisome expressions, energetic curiosity, flexible attention spans and charming characteristics. They have an average lifespan of 10-12 years.

From all the Staff at Mt Hutton Pet Hospital, we would like to wish you all a Happy and Safe Easter.

Staff Profile ~ Dr Dragica Strinic



Hi I'm Dr Dragica. I grew up in Wollongong and graduated my Bachelor of Veterinary Science at Sydney University in 2002. After working in Sydney for 2 years I then went to Europe where I did some traveling and worked at several vet clinics in the UK. It was a great experience as there were a lot of different illnesses and pets that we do not see here in Australia.

I started working at Mount Hutton Pet Hospital as a locum in April 2007 for a few months, and have returned on a more permanent basis since April 2008.

I own a one-eyed cat called "Willy" and 3 other cats that I have kindly donated to my parents. As a child I grew up with pet chickens, ducks and rabbits and that's where my love for animals stems from.

In my spare time I like to read, go for walks and spending time with friends. I enjoy traveling and try to get home to Wollongong as often as possible.

I look forward to meeting you and your pets.