

Cats Protection Veterinary Discount Schemes

Practices providing veterinary services to cats in the care of Cats Protection (CP) branches and adoption centres can help the charity's money go further, by signing up the CP discount schemes.

Due to Cats Protection's charity status and the volume of products purchased across the UK, we are lucky to be able to access substantial discounts. Ultimately the huge savings that veterinary practices can help us to achieve will enable us to care for more cats across the country and increase our standards of care.

All schemes are easy to set up and once the initial short application forms have been completed, shouldn't impact on you or your practice; in fact it should save time as all the invoices via these schemes will be paid directly by CP rather than having to be charged to the branch by the practice.

We understand that you have a business to run. Therefore, we understand that you may still need to charge your normal mark up on drugs purchased through the wholesaler scheme and blood test kits, as well as for your time (consulting, sampling, submitting and interpreting, etc).

However, because we receive a discount on the product or test from the manufacturer and the wholesaler, even with the usual mark up added, we are still able to make a saving.

Veterinary Wholesaler scheme

By purchasing products directly from our wholesaler we are able to benefit from wholesaler prices and reap discounts from manufacturers. However, because this area requires close monitoring to ensure it is used correctly and in accordance with the Veterinary Medicines Regulations, we request that a form is completed and signed by the vet before an account is set up.

Branches are supplied with pre-printed wholesaler order forms. They can order any non prescription products such as litter and food. Vets can consult the branch about any prescription drugs required for CP cats which may be added to the order. The main products ordered are vaccine, flea and worm treatments. Regardless of what is being ordered the order form must be signed and stamped by the vet.

The order is either emailed or faxed to the Covetrus who place it using an automated system. The order will be delivered to the practice the next working day (no deliveries over weekends). All orders must be placed via the CP/ wholesaler order forms.

The order should be checked off as normal. All POM-V's should be stored at the practice until dispensed for CP cats (an exception may be made for flea and worming products) and any other non-prescription products can be collected by the branch. The appropriate batch recording of POM-Vs dispensed (as advised by the VMD) is the responsibility of the veterinary practice, as per your normal POM-V deliveries.

Products purchased through the wholesaler are for use on CP cats must not be used for non CP cats and must not be sold or donations asked for. The only exception is for cats being that have been homed by CP and are being given their second vaccination using CP purchased vaccine.

Even though the delivery is made directly to the veterinary practice, it has been stressed to branches that if prescription only products are ordered without veterinary authorisation they will not be able to continue using this discounted service. Due to the legal implications for the charity and the vet, if the scheme is not used appropriately, the facility will be withdrawn.

CP has negotiated a substantial discount on Speed Duo FeLV/FIV blood testing kits; these are ordered through the wholesaler.

Microchips are not ordered via the wholesaler but through direct accounts with Animalcare that can be set up separately. Please see below.

Microchip scheme

Microchipping is Cats Protection's recommended form of permanent identification. We have negotiated a discounted rate on identichips purchased through Animalcare.

Branches place orders for microchips, scanners and implanter guns or syringes through CP and the chips are delivered to their home address.

Branch volunteers who have been trained to microchip by Animalcare can perform the procedure. Other volunteers may wish to bring the chips to the vet to be implanted which could be done at the time of health check, vaccination or neutering. The branch should liaise with the vet that will be chipping to ensure they order the vets preferred style of implantation device.

CP microchips must not be used for cats which are not in the current care of Cats Protection.

Finn laboratory discount scheme

Finn Pathologists have kindly offered CP a charity discounted, tailor-made laboratory service for cats in our care.

Once a brief application form has been completed and faxed to CP, Finn will send out a pack with the necessary submission forms, tubes and other consumables to use their services.

The branch name and vet practice address information on the forms will be pre-filled and your preferred method of receiving results will be set up in advance (email or fax). Following submission of a sample to Finn with a completed CP form, the results will be sent directly to the practice, but the invoice for the test will be sent directly to CP Accounts Department for payment.

Consumables should be stored at the practice and replacement consumables can be ordered when required.

While the consumables themselves are free there is a carriage fee for delivering the consumables of £6 per order, we would advise placing larger orders, less frequently in order to keep the number of carriage charges to a minimum. These charges will but invoiced to CP Accounts for Payment in the same way as the tests.

There are a number of viral tests that Finn are not able to carry out, including isolation of feline herpesvirus, calicivirus and chlamydia. With this in mind Finn have joined forces with another laboratory, Biobest. They are able to offer some of the extra viral tests that are often requested in a shelter environment at the same discounted rate.

A Biobest folder and submission forms will be sent to the practice along with the Finn information. Tests should be sent directly to Biobest on their CP forms and please contact them directly when you require further consumables.

FIV/FeLV confirmatory testing (PCR or IFA for FIV and VI for FeLV) should still be sent to Bristol University or Glasgow University as Biobest doesn't offer these specific tests.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information and to consider these schemes. CP are probably the UK's largest feline client with an average spend of over £6 million a year on veterinary fees alone. We would like to extend our thanks to you again for your continued support, which makes a huge difference to the health and wellbeing of thousands of cats.

Should you have any queries regarding these schemes and if you would like to receive our discount scheme application forms, please don't hesitate to contact the CP Veterinary Department.