

Colorado Canine Rescue
Effective Date: January 1, 2017
Amended Date:

Standard Medical Care Policy

Purpose:

All dogs rescued through Colorado Canine Rescue's (CCR's) program will receive the standard vetting that is outlined in this policy to ensure that the dogs are healthy at the time of adoption. Adoptive Homes will be fully educated on any chronic medical conditions, behavioral issues or special needs of each dog.

Scope:

Medical Coordinator, Foster Coordinator, Foster Homes

Responsible Party:

Medical Coordinator

POLICY

I. Policy Statement

CCR has determined the minimum amount of medical care that each dog should receive to ensure that State and PACFA guidelines are met and to ensure that the dogs are healthy at the time of adoption.

II. Procedure

The Foster Home will work together with the Medical Coordinator to dictate the medical care that the foster dog will receive.

- A. Once the foster dog has arrived to CCR, the Foster Home or transporting volunteer will deliver the medical and transfer paperwork to the Medical Coordinator within five days.
- B. The Medical Coordinator will input the foster dog into the database system and a paper file will be kept for each dog.
- C. The Medical Coordinator will email the Foster Home the Medical Needs Form, which will contain what medical care is needed for the foster dog.
 1. The Foster Home will notify the Medical Coordinator of any medical concerns that have been observed and need attention.
- D. The Foster Home will notify the Medical Coordinator which CCR veterinary clinic they would like to use.

1. The clinic list will be provided at Foster Orientation and is available on the Foster Resource Page on the CCR website.
- E. The Medical Coordinator will provide the foster dog's medical summary to the appropriate veterinary clinic.
- F. The Foster Home should make appropriate veterinary appointments by using the foster dog's CCR ID number.
- G. All medical records will be faxed or emailed to the Medical Coordinator by the veterinary clinic after the appointment.
 1. Records include exam notes, rabies certificate, and lab results.
- H. The Medical Coordinator will input the records into the database.
- I. Medical bills will be paid by CCR directly to the veterinary clinics as determined by the veterinary agreement.
 1. An invoice will be provided by the veterinary clinic to the Medical Coordinator.

III. Requirements

- A. All veterinary care will be performed at the veterinary clinics that CCR has a working relationship with.
 1. If veterinary care is received at non-approved CCR clinics, CCR is not responsible for the expense.
 2. If it is a life or death emergency and a CCR-approved clinic is not accessible, a non-CCR-approved clinic may be used.
 - a. All medical records from any emergency visit must be provided to the Medical Coordinator, regardless of whether it is a CCR-approved veterinary clinic, within five days of the appointment.
- B. All non-standard veterinary care, as outlined in this policy, must be approved by the Medical Coordinator prior to the care being received.
 1. Any non-standard veterinary procedures or treatments that exceeds \$1,000 in expenses must be approved in advance by the Board of Directors.
 2. If emergency veterinary care is needed and the Medical Coordinator cannot be reached within 5 minutes, any of the other coordinators or Board members may be contacted for approval to administer veterinary care. If no one can be reached and it is life, limb, or severe pain-related emergency, vetting is permitted without approval at the closest emergency veterinary clinic.

- C. Foster dogs will be identified at the vet clinics by their CCR identification numbers. For example, CCR1000 aka Buddy. All records will include their CCR identification number on it.
- D. All CCR dogs will have a microchip placed prior to being adopted.
 - 1. Microchips will be provided by CCR to the vet clinics for a pre-determined cost outlined in the Veterinary Agreement.
 - 2. The vet clinic will notify the Medical Coordinator when they are running low on microchips.
 - 3. The CCR Medical Coordinator will register the microchips at the time of adoption.
- E. All dogs and puppies will be spayed/neutered prior to adoption if they are five months or older, unless recommended otherwise by one of our veterinarians or there are special circumstances.
 - 1. If the dog or puppy is not altered prior to adoption, a spay/neuter voucher will be given at the time of adoption according to CCR's Spay and Neuter policy.
- F. The standard medical care that all CCR adult foster dogs will receive is:
 - 1. Spay/Neuter
 - 2. Full Exam
 - a. Specific information needed from exam includes: age guesstimate, breed guesstimate, whether dental is needed, scan for microchip, any skin conditions, any hip or knee issues, any ear issues.
 - 3. Distemper combo vaccine and distemper booster within 3-4 weeks of initial vaccination.
 - a. If the foster dog has a known vaccination history prior to CCR, a booster vaccination is not required.
 - b. If the foster dog is adopted prior to needing the booster vaccine, the adoptive home will be advised of the recommendation to receive the booster vaccine.
 - 4. Bordetella vaccination
 - a. If the Bordetella vaccine is given intra-nasal or oral, no booster vaccine is needed and can be given yearly or per facility request.
 - b. If the Bordetella vaccine is given intramuscular, it needs a booster shot 3-4 weeks after the initial vaccination and is good for 6 months-1 year, or per facility request.
 - c. If the foster dog is adopted prior to needing the booster vaccine, the adoptive home will be advised of the recommendation to receive the booster vaccine.
 - 5. Rabies vaccination
 - a. Rabies vaccination to be given to all dogs 4 months or older.

- b. Rabies to be given yearly unless it is a 3-year vaccine.
 - 6. Microchip
 - 7. Heartworm test
 - a. If the dog is in CCR's care 6 months after the initial heartworm test, a repeat test will be done at 6 months and yearly thereafter.
 - 8. All dogs will receive monthly heartworm preventative medication unless otherwise recommended by the veterinarian.
 - a. Sentinel Spectrum will be used when possible for the deworming effects on heartworms, roundworms, hookworms, whipworms, and tapeworms.
- G. The standard medical care that all CCR foster puppies will receive is:
 - 1. Spay/Neuter if the puppy is greater than 5 months old. See Spay and Neuter Policy.
 - 2. Full Exam
 - a. Specific information needed from the exam includes, but is not limited to: age guesstimate, breed guesstimate, whether dental is needed, scan for microchip, any skin conditions, any hip or knee issues, any ear issues.
 - 3. Distemper Combo vaccine
 - a. Puppies will receive 3 distemper combo vaccine boosters given 3-4 weeks apart.
 - 1. If puppies are adopted prior to receiving all of their booster shots, the adoptive homes will be advised on the needed vaccinations.
 - 4. Bordetella vaccine
 - a. If the Bordetella vaccine is given intra-nasal or oral, no booster vaccine is needed and can be given yearly or per facility request.
 - b. If the Bordetella vaccine is given intramuscular, it needs a booster shot 3-4 weeks after the initial vaccination and is good for 6 months-1 year, or per facility request.
 - c. If the foster dog is adopted prior to needing the booster vaccine, the adoptive home will be advised of the recommendation to receive the booster vaccine.
 - 5. Rabies vaccine if older than 4 months.
 - 6. Microchipped
 - 7. All puppies will be started on monthly heartworm preventative medication and will be given it monthly while in CCR care unless otherwise recommended by the veterinarian.

- a. Sentinel Spectrum will be used when possible for the deworming effects on heartworms, roundworms, hookworms, whipworms, and tapeworms.
 - b. Puppies/dogs over the age of 7 months will receive a heartworm test prior to being started on preventative medication.
- H. All dogs greater than 7 months old will have a heartworm test completed and if negative, will receive monthly heartworm prevention.
 - a. If the dog is in CCR care 6 months after their initial test, it will be retested at 6 months and yearly thereafter.
 - b. Sentinel Spectrum is the preferred heartworm prevention medication for its deworming properties. If it cannot be used, the foster dog should receive appropriate deworming medication as needed.
- I. If the dog is heartworm positive, treatment will be performed according to the veterinarian's recommendation.
- J. All standard medical care, besides booster vaccinations, will be completed and the records entered in the database prior to the foster dog going to its Adoptive Home.
 - 1. If the dog has been spayed/neutered prior to adoption, the Adoptive Home is responsible after adoption for all medical care, including vaccination boosters and rabies, unless otherwise arranged.
 - 2. The dog's full medical and adoption records will be given to the adoptive home at the time of adoption via transfer electronically or a printed copy.