



PET PAGES

Official Yellow Pages for Animal Lovers

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Pet Pages – For the South West Florida Edition

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Why can't I just get the medicine?

This is one of the most common questions from pet owners in our area. Often, seasonal residents or visitors who forgot to pack their pet's medications will ask if a Florida veterinarian can provide a new supply. However, Florida law requires a valid "veterinarian/client/patient relationship" (or VCPR) in order for a veterinarian to prescribe or dispense medications. You can search for more information about the VCPR at www.avma.org, and the full details of the Florida statutes can be found online at www.leg.state.fl.us. The short definition of a VCPR is "...a veterinarian's record of a client's animal which documents that the veterinarian has seen the animal in a professional capacity within a period of 12 months or less."

This one year time frame is sometimes a surprise to even year-round Florida residents simply because time flies and it may be difficult to keep up with the pet's annual exam due date. The year 2020 certainly made "keeping up" difficult for so many things in our lives! If you aren't sure of the status of your VCPR, call your Florida veterinary office. The staff can review your pet's records and help you schedule an appointment to establish or update your VCPR. Then appropriate medications can be prescribed and dispensed for your pet.

Provided by Sabal Palm Animal Hospital, 8595 Collier Blvd, Suite 110, Naples, FL, 239-417-8338 www.SabalPalmAnimalHospital.com

Approved By _____ Date _____

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