



## Food and Medications

### ***Our policies on the safe return and disposal of medication:***

In some circumstances, there may be occasions where you end up with a surplus amount of medication from your pet. With some types or medications or large quantities, this can end up being quite a large cost. We often get asked if we are able to refund and/or reuse this medication.

**Unfortunately, we are unable to refund any unused medication or food that has left our building due to the inability to provide proof of the storage conditions.**

This is to ensure the safety of our patients and that we are compliant with the Veterinary Medicines Directive legal guidelines, regarding the storage of medicines.



Nearly all medications have storage conditions that take into account temperature, light, position and humidity which are monitored from production to sale. From our wholesaler to

the practice and whilst in the practice, the correct storage conditions are monitored and recorded daily. This security stops as soon as the drugs leave the building.

Any medication that has become wet or damp, been exposed to too much light, or become too hot e.g. a car in the summer, can be chemically altered. This could mean that it becomes less effective or even harmful.

Whilst we do completely understand that it is highly unlikely that these conditions have been breached, we cannot provide evidence of this. Nor could we prove to another client that the food or medication has not been tampered with in any way. Therefore, products that have left the building cannot be used for resale.

### **Disposal of Medication**

Did you know that the safest way to dispose of your pet's unused flea and worming treatments, antibiotics and other medicines is to return them to your veterinary surgery?

Out of date or unused medications can be returned to Claro Hill Vets for safe disposal.

Please check your cupboards for any unused or partially used medicines, including any out of date, and return them to us for disposal. This also includes any tablets or pipettes that you have removed from the blister pack but not use, or opened within 28 days.

Liquid medication - please ensure the tops or lids are secured tightly on any spot-on pipettes, bottles or jars. Ideally, these should then be placed in a sealed, leak-proof bag.

Unused tablets - these should remain in their original packaging (blister packs or bottles) if possible; otherwise tablets of the same type should be gathered together and placed in a sealable, child-proof container.

Any returned drugs are disposed of into a pharmaceutical waste bin, which we then have to pay for the collection and disposal of. Medications are never returned to the shelf for resale.

We are happy to safely dispose of any unused medications and do not charge a fee for this.



### **Recycling blister packets**

Unfortunately blister packs cannot be recycled at home in kerbside recycling bins, nor can they be recycled at the local council recycling centre.

We are currently looking to put a scheme in place enabling us to have collections from Claro Hill Vets for the recycling of blister packs.

In the meantime, packets can be taken to your local SuperDrug or Boots the Chemist.