



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
SOUTHERN EUROPE DISTRICT VETERINARY COMMAND
AVIANO AIR BASE, ITALY

REPLY TO

ATTENTION OF

MCVS-EUS-AV

26 January 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR: All pet owners

SUBJECT: Use of the Aviano Veterinary Treatment Facility

1. Guidelines for using the Veterinary Treatment Facility (VTF):

a. IAW AR 40-905, veterinary privileges are provided for those individuals enrolled in DEERS. Only the sponsor or spouse may register the pet.

b. Supporting the Military Working Dogs (MWDs) is the primary mission of the VTF. **In the event of an MWD emergency, appointments may be delayed or canceled as necessary.**

c. In order to purchase any prescription products from the VTF, your pet must be seen within the past 12 months.

d. For safety reasons, it is strongly recommended that parents do not bring children under the age of 12 into the

VTF. If children are brought along they must be accompanied by a parent at all times. If a child is unruly in the VTF and safety is a concern, the pet's appointment may have to be rescheduled.

e. In order to provide service in a timely fashion, we request all clients show up 15 minutes before their scheduled appointment time. **If you arrive late for your pet's appointment, you may be required to reschedule.**

f. Veterinary services will not be provided to those animals used for breeding.

g. **All pets must be leashed or kenneled whenever they are in the VTF.**

h. Procedures that are considered cosmetic such as tail docking, declawing, and ear cropping are prohibited by Italian law.

i. The Aviano VTF is not equipped to handle emergencies. In order to receive timely after-hours emergency Care, establishing a relationship with an off-base veterinarian is strongly recommended. A critical care list can be obtained from the VTF.

j. During appointments all privately owned animals will be restrained with minimal restraint. An animal that cannot be safely restrained may be refused services.

k. Base regulation, European Union, and Italian law require that all dogs, cats, and ferrets be microchipped.

l. In order to maintain travel readiness of pets, the Aviano VTF vaccinates all pets annually for rabies. Owners should keep a copy of the Rabies Vaccination Certificate on-hand and pets should wear their issued Rabies tags at all times.

m. In order to transfer pet ownership to another American or Italian the registered owner (sponsor or spouse) must come in to the VTF and relinquish ownership. However, this can only occur after the new owner has signed acknowledging that they are responsible for the pet. Additionally, until the registered owner relinquishes ownership, a Power of Attorney is required to provide treatment that is authorized to the new owner. It is highly recommended that the registered owner accompany the new owner to the VTF to expedite the process of pet transfer.

n. If at any time your pet is lost or passes away you must contact the VTF as soon as possible. If your pet passes away you will be required to furnish proper cremation/disposal/euthanasia receipts before your animal will be inactivated. If you do not recover your lost animal before PCS'ing, a letter from your First Sergeant/Commander is required for you to inactivate your animal in our system.

o. When PCS'ing proof of shipment (presentation of a valid health certificate issued by an authorized veterinarian) is required before we will clear you for out-processing.

p. Only the registered owner or spouse is authorized to make decisions regarding care of the pet. If at any time it is necessary for someone other than the owner to provide care, a Power of Attorney authorizing that person to make decisions is required.

2. **Convenience euthanasia will not be performed at the Aviano VTF.** Euthanasia will only be conducted when a valid medical need is apparent and diagnosed by a veterinarian.

3. Our appointment availability is limited and therefore it is very important that you keep your pet's appointment. If you are unable to keep your appointment please contact the VTF as soon as possible so that the appointment slot may be made available to others.

4. POC for this memorandum is the undersigned at DSN: 632-8485.

JEAN V. RUBANICK, DVM
CPT, VC
OIC, Aviano Air Base Veterinary Branch

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Sign

Date