



# Southridge Animal Hospital

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## Online Prescription Consent to be Filled by Internet Pharmacies or Catalog Vendors

MR# \_\_\_\_\_ Client \_\_\_\_\_ Pet \_\_\_\_\_

The staff at Southridge Animal Hospital empathize with the desire to make the most economical decisions regarding your pet's medications. Out of the best interests of our patients, we recommend obtaining prescriptions in at our facility because this allows our veterinarians to directly supervise the processing and filling of the medications, as well as keep medical records updated. Many medications recommended by our veterinarians may be obtained from outside or online pharmacies at a discounted rate due to the ability for warehouse companies to stock large volumes of product. It may also seem more convenient to purchase medications online with home delivery. If you elect to choose an outside or online pharmacy for your pet's medications, we can provide a written prescription in lieu of dispensing them in house. We do, however, wish for your choice to be an informed decision.

We cannot control the methods outside pharmacies use to obtain and store their products. Illegitimate online pharmacies have a high probability of dispensing counterfeit non-FDA approved medications or medications obtained illegally overseas, which may contain harmful ingredients or lead to inaccurate dosing. Please have your pet's prescription filled at a reputable verified pharmacy to decrease this risk.

Manufacturer rebates are generally **only** available through veterinarians and cannot be applied to purchases from online pharmacies. This is also true for product guarantees, especially with heartworm preventatives. In order for your pet to be eligible for the benefits of manufacturer satisfaction guarantee programs, including any reimbursements or coverage of medical costs related to treatment, the product must be obtained directly from a veterinarian with a valid existing veterinarian/patient relationship.

Tracking reminders for follow up visits and blood work necessary for monitoring chronic conditions will not be updated in your pet's electronic medical record if medications aren't purchased directly through us, which can lead to inaccuracies and difficulties with refill requests at minimum, but more concerningly may affect your pet's treatment protocol at worst.

After familiarizing yourself with the above concerns regarding online pharmacies, if you are still interested in obtaining your pet's prescriptions elsewhere, we ask that you consent to the following:

I \_\_\_\_\_ request written prescriptions for my pet's medications to be purchased at an outside or online pharmacy of my choosing. I understand the risks outlined above for purchasing medications not dispensed directly from my veterinarian. I understand that these prescription requests will be reviewed by a veterinarian as soon as possible, but the prescriptions filled in house will remain our priority. We will make every effort to review prescription requests within 72 hours of submission. We cannot control the time required for the pharmacy of your choosing to fill/ship the medications. If the prescription is lost or misplaced, I understand that my pet will not be eligible for a new prescription until all refills have expired. I understand that a valid veterinary patient relationship is required for obtaining prescriptions of any kind, which includes an annual physical exam and possibly monitoring lab work depending on the prescription in question. If any issues arise with medications purchased elsewhere (including complications or illnesses that are a direct result from these medications) my concerns must be addressed with the pharmacy where the medications were prescribed and not with Southridge Animal Hospital or the manufacturer.

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Signature of Owner/Authorized Agent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date