

## Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Update

At GCVS, the health and well-being of your pet and family are our top priority. As the situation around coronavirus (COVID-19) continues to evolve, we want to assure you that we plan to remain open for emergencies and continue uninterrupted specialty care during normal business hours. As always, we are committed to our patients and focused on delivering the high-quality care you expect from GCVS.

**Due to the recent rise in COVID-19 cases in the community, we have adjusted our protocols to help keep patients, clients, and employees healthy and safe. This includes implementing a limited access policy and [contactless curbside service](#) which suspends use of our waiting area and restricts access to our building.**

**If your pet has been referred to GCVS or is experiencing an emergency, please call GCVS (713-693-1111) prior to your arrival and we will provide you with detailed instructions.**

Inside our hospital, we are taking additional steps to keep patients, clients, and employees healthy and safe.

- We require the use of a face mask or other covering of the mouth and nose for all individuals.
- All person-to-person physical contact is limited, and appropriate social distancing measures are followed.
- We have increased the frequency of cleaning and disinfecting of all high touch surfaces throughout our facility with a hydrolyzed peroxide disinfectant cleaning agent (99% effective in 5 minutes).
- All CDC guidelines are being closely followed by our team.
- GCVS is equipped with state-of-the-art circulation systems, identical to those found in human hospitals, which use a high-efficiency (HEPA) filter to circulate the air and remove more than 99% of airborne particles. Our air handling systems use 100% outside air and do not recirculate air within the building.

All GCVS departments are fully operational and accepting new patients. We are continuing to monitor the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and local authorities to ensure that the actions that we are taking are comprehensive and appropriate.

We appreciate your understanding and patience during this uncertain time.



Brian E. Harnish  
Hospital Director, Gulf Coast Veterinary Specialists