

WESTIE RESCUE MICHIGAN  
 MEDICAL CARE CHECKLIST

updated 9/4/15

CHECK	ITEM	DETAIL
_____	FLEAS	Check immediately; If unsure, give a CAPSTAR & isolate dog
_____	BATH/GROOM	Best to do immediately unless dog is snarly. Get groomed ASAP-esp. before stitches
_____	EMAIL	Post to list same day. Ask about anything. Post photo ASAP. Continue posting min. 2x week.
_____	MED RECORDS	Take ALL records to the vet. If none, try to get name & # of previous vet. Ask your vet staff to call to have records faxed (get copies for your files). If no records exist, assume nothing was done and get all shots, etc. IF SKIN ISSUES, print and take M1 to vet.
_____	VET APPT	Schedule ASAP, within 24 hrs if possible. You may choose to isolate dog until after this appt, esp. if dog came from shelter or looks mangy. Even if dog is up to date, do this as a well dog visit. (Isolate means they can't sniff each other through fencing!) <b>- Schedule dental and spay at the same time you schedule 1st apt.</b>
_____	SHOTS	Bring the dog up to date completely on shots. (If anesthesia is scheduled soon you may hold off and do shots while dog is under. Any delay, be sure rabies was done.)
_____	--Rabies	1 yr for puppies; 3 yrs for adults if they have had shots in the past
_____	--DHLP	If this is the 1st known DHLP, a booster is needed in 3 weeks. (Initials may vary from vet to vet depending on what they include.) NOTE: If there is a solid history of annual shots, you can go to a 3 year cycle on distemper but pls do lept on annual schedule. Generally redo if they gave their own shots.
_____	--Bordetella	(Shot or Nasal) If shot, booster is required; if nasal, it lasts 6 mos.
_____	--Lyme	Please request a lyme vaccination
_____	-Health Cert.	PLEASE request a certificate showing dog's name and certifying that shots have been given for later proof in case of need to board or for adopters to get dog license.
_____	FECAL CHECK	Do this for every dog! Gather pooh as close to apt time as possible. Just a small sample. If you don't get it, vet can usually collect at office visit. <b>PICK UP POOH UNTIL THIS IS DONE AND CLEAR, HEARTWORM IS GIVEN PLUS 1 DAY!</b>
_____	HEARTWORM TEST	Pills will come to you in pouch; if not, buy 2; one for now and one for adopter. ALWAYS do this check.
_____	PREVENTION	We want year-around prevention. Recommended: Sentinal or similar that takes care of worms/parasites. (If you don't get this, then DO worm the dog regardless of test results.) DON'T give pill until heartworm test is back and clear.
_____	MICROCHIP	Have vet check for existing chip. If none, have one inserted (wait and do while under anesthesia if possible). IF vet charges for registration, have them hold papers until dog is adopted; then call them and give them the info. If they do not register, take papers with you so we can register after adoption. (Give Beth chip# immediately)
_____	NEUTER/SPAY	ALWAYS have this done if it hasn't already been done. If female and uncertain, ask vet to look for a scar; they can do a hormone test that might help figure it out. If your vet offers laser surgery, we will pay the extra for it.
_____	--Certificate	ASK for a spay/neuter certificate
_____	DENTAL	Most adults need this. We want the dog's teeth to be pristine when it is adopted.
_____	OTHER ISSUES	Tell vet anything you have noticed (lumps, bumps, limps, sneezes, sniffles, hair loss, runny eyes, shaking leg while running, smells, possible UTIs, etc.) Loose knee caps (Luxating Patellas) are common; we seldom fix..only if causing pain but we do want to note them to the adopter. ACLs we fix. Heart murmurs, unless possibly serious, we just note to adopter. If possibly serious, refer to specialist.
_____	BLOOD PANELS	ALWAYS get a complete blood panel so we can catch anything possible and for a baseline. Do before surgery; for senior dogs, do the extra testing and surgical support recommended. (Complete means more than a CBC and includes things such as kidney values.) This is usually under \$100 and may be in house.
_____	THYROID PANEL	Discuss if the dog appears to be a Cushings dog, e.g., hair loss, pot belly, or has aggression issues. We prefer to do the one that goes to MSU and takes a week or so. NO in house panels.
_____	STUDIES	<b>See details on the "Abbreviated checklist" located in the binder.</b>
_____	EXTRA SURGERY	Get details and cost estimates, recovery time, prognosis and discuss with Board before proceeding, except in emergencies.