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Popular Article

Care and Management of Companion Animals

Lavanya K* Keerthika S, Anbupriyan T, Manali S Patil and Arjun.G

Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Veterinary Education and Research, Kurumbapet,

Puducherry-605009

*Corresponding Author: lavanyakalyan60@gmail.com

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Abstract:

It is important to provide the necessary social, emotional, and physical requirements of companion animals. This entails giving your pet a healthy food, consistent exercise, and frequent vet treatment. Play and training are examples of enrichment activities that are crucial for cerebral stimulation and social bonding. It is important to keep your living space tidy and to practice good grooming and developing social skills with both people and other animals is essential for a well-mannered pet. Strong human-animal bonds are fostered by an understanding of the requirements and behaviours unique to each species. Microchipping, spaying, or neutering, and following local pet care laws are other aspects of responsible pet ownership. Overall, their wellbeing depends on a dedication to empathy and accountability.

Keywords: Companion animals, human- animal bond, social bonding.

Introduction:

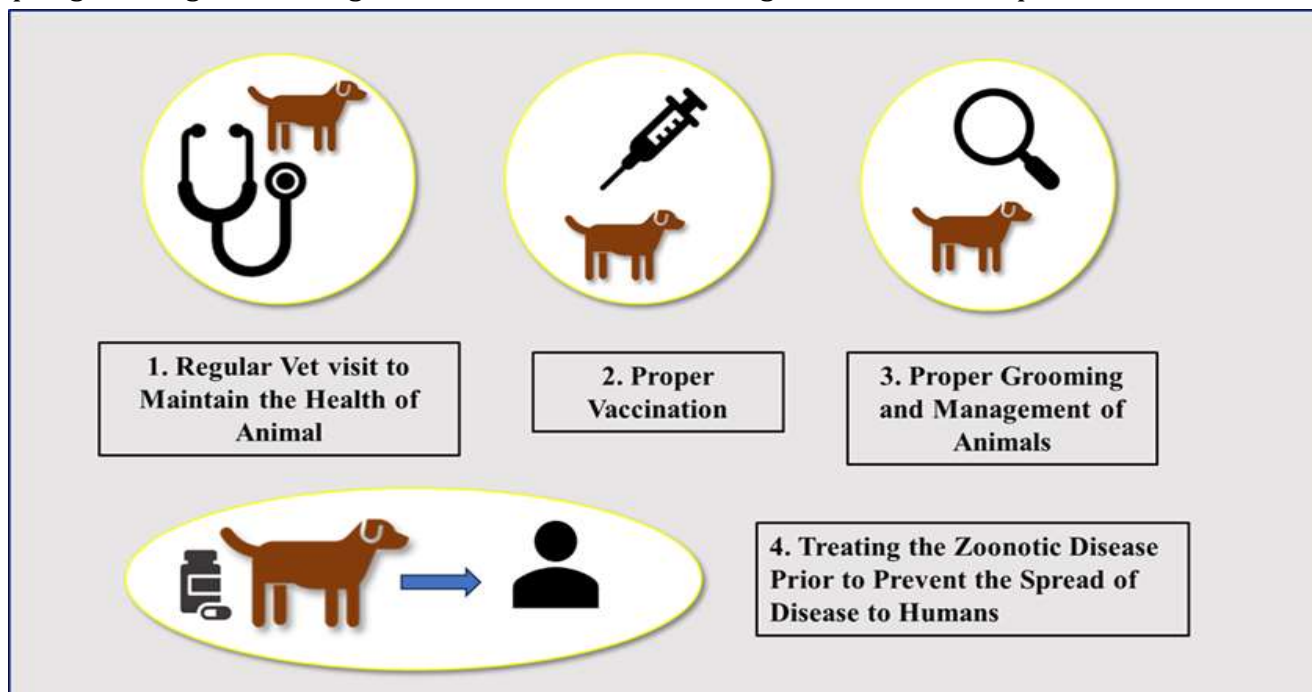
When we talk about companion animals, we're talking about animals that individuals keep for ease, management, and companion is the main reasons people own companion animal which provide both physical, behavioural, and emotional comfort to the caretaker's family. Therefore, taking care of pet involves fulfilling responsibilities that extend beyond giving food and shelter. Many facets of proper care and management are included, such as environment, behaviour, health, and nutrition. Comprehending these components is crucial to guaranteeing the welfare of animals and cultivating an effective connection between pets and their human caregivers. (O'Haire M et al., 2010)

Health and Well-Being:

Majority of pet owners are unable to identify their pets' morbidities, it is crucial to incorporate a systematic health risk assessment into routine wellness visits because a regular wellness visit reveals the importance of health risk in animal early. Secondly, preventative wellness in animals can also reduce the risk of spreading disease from animals to human known as zoonoses. So, just like humans, pets

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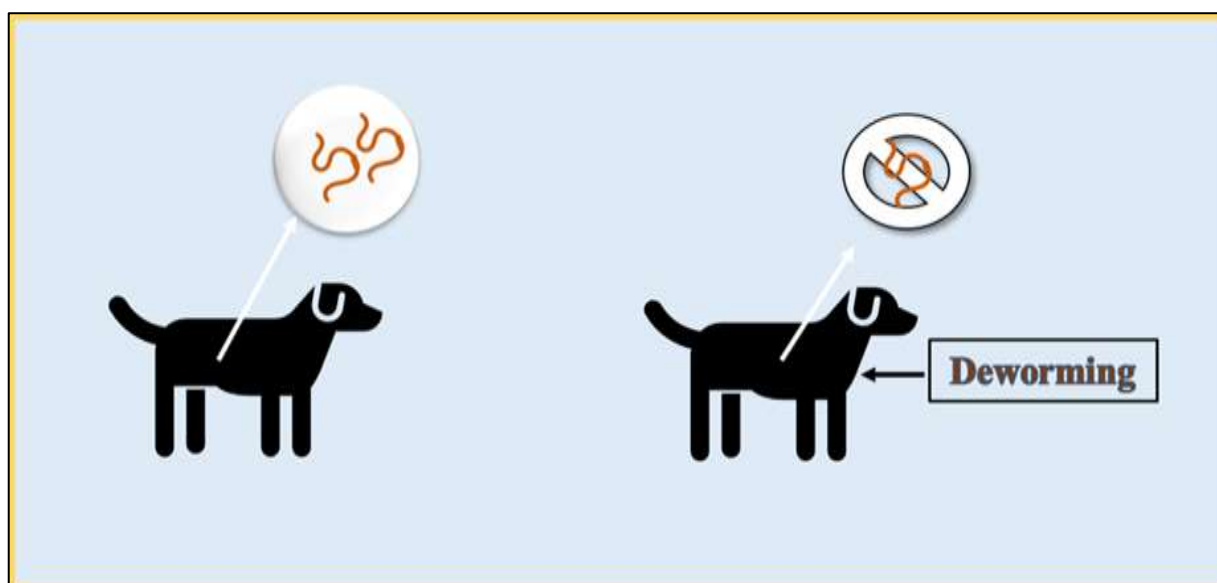
require regular veterinary care, vaccinations (both Multi Antigen Vaccine and Anti- rabies vaccine), proper grooming and management of animal, ear cleaning, dental care and preventive treatments to



stay healthy. Hence a proper maintenance of health and well-being helps pets live longer and healthier life, avoids expensive treatment cost down the roads and also help to tackle issue before it becomes a serious illness. (O'Haire M et al., 2010)

Routine Deworming from External and Internal Parasites:

Deworming is the process of removing external and internal parasites from animals. Internal parasites like hookworms, roundworms, tapeworms, whipworms, heartworms and External parasites like fleas, ticks, lice, mites, flies. It is important to deworm the animals because it prevents parasite related disease



like heartworm disease commonly seen dogs, reduces risk of parasite transmission to humans also Improves animal health. (J.W. Stull et al., 2007)

Nutrition and Diet:

Meals that are well-balanced and meet your pet's specific nutritional needs including proteins, carbs, fats, and vitamins and minerals make up a healthy pet nutrition plan. In order to keep pets at a healthy weight and avoid health problems associated with obesity, water consumption is essential, as is portion control. (*Di Cerbo A et al., 2017*). Over- nutrition is considered as malnutrition (high levels of fats in diets) more commonly seen in animals nowadays which is morbid obesity. Therefore, it is important to know about the portion control in animals so that animals receive the right amount of nutrients based on their age, sex, breed, and production status. Supplements, are additives to the animal's feed. So, if any lack of deficiencies seen in animals can be corrected by supplements after checking with a proper licensed veterinarian. There are various types of food available for animals based on species and age they are dry food, semi-moist food, canned food, homemade diets So, there is a choice to go with commercial foods or homemade diets or with both in a correct proportion. (*Talyor, M. B., 2011*)

Breeding and Population Control:

Breeding in companion animal is done to improve breed characteristics, to enhance health and well-being, preserve breed diversity. Breeding in animals can be done naturally or artificially. Artificial reproduction includes insemination with fresh, chilled or frozen-thawed semen. Dogs and cats are examples of multiparous animals with short gestation periods that have the capacity to give birth to many offspring that can become sexually mature as early as six months of age. The uncontrolled increase in the number of dogs and cats and their abandonment are caused by these causes related to pet owners' negligence. Therefore, Spaying and castration in companion animal helps fight pet overpopulation and it also helps pets better behaved, less frustrated and prevents animals from serious disease and infections. The right age to do is from 6 months to 10 months. So, it is important to spay and castrate animals to prevent unplanned pet pregnancies and undesired reproduction (*Vendramini THA et al.,2020*)

Routine Check-ups and Veterinary Care for Pets:

Firstly, finding a proper veterinarian with good skills, verified credentials, specialty certificates, having a proper review and referrals from friends or pet sitters plays an important role, then only comes the

Types of Veterinary Care	Check-ups
Preventative Care	Regular Vaccinations, Routine Check-ups
Diagnostic Care	Routine Blood test checking and imaging
Surgical Care	Spaying/ Castration, Orthopedic issues
Emergency Care	Accidents/ illness
Chronic Care	Ongoing regular checkup of chronic illness

veterinary care for pets which is essential for maintaining their health and well-being. Regular check-ups allow veterinarians to monitor pets for signs of illness, provide vaccinations, and perform preventative screenings. Routine dental care is also important, as dental disease can lead to serious health issues. (Shanan A. A et., 2011)

Conclusion:

Care and management of companion animals strengthens the human-animal bond perhaps most importantly, keeping your pet healthy through wellness care allows you to enjoy more active life together and many happy, healthy years together. As per Animal welfare set of guidelines it is also important for the pets to have the five freedoms when they are under human care, they are freedom from hunger and thirst, freedom from discomfort, freedom from pain, injury, or disease, freedom to express normal behaviour, freedom from fear and distress to have a better life for them (Wensley SP et al., 2008)

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