

## Post Adoption Veterinary Direction

Congratulations on the adoption of a DHDR Doberman! This guide will provide you information on what your adopted Doberman has already had completed medically as well as direction for future vet care. For information specific to the dog you adopted, please see the medical records we have sent to you (some cases can differ).

### Your DHDR Doberman Comes With:

- **Exam:** All dogs get a full intake exam when they come into the rescue. Sometimes, if needed, they also get additional exams while in our care.
- **Vaccinations:** We ensure that all dogs have up to date DA2PP, Bordatella, and Rabies vaccinations. It is very important that your vet knows this, as over-vaccinating too soon is dangerous.
- **Heartworm Test & Preventative:** All dogs get tested for Heartworm Disease and other tick-borne illnesses. We also administer a monthly heartworm preventative on the 1st of every month.
- **Fecal Test:** Each dog gets a fecal test upon entering the rescue to check for parasites, worms, etc. If the fecal test comes back positive, the dog is treated before being adopted.
- **Nail Trim:** All dogs get a nail trim and bath when they come into the rescue.
- **Bloodwork:** We ensure that all dogs have a bloodwork panel, most often called “pre-op bloodwork” done to confirm they are healthy, and any out of range values are addressed.
- **Microchip**
- **Spay and Neuter:** All dogs are spayed and neutered.
- **Other:** At the time of exam, if any other health issues are present, DHDR treats these issues and makes the adopter aware.

### What should you do next?

Most importantly, share all of the medical records we have provided to you via email with your vet. We recommend that as your new pet settles, you have an introductory exam done at your own vet.

### What other veterinary considerations are important?

There are many important health considerations for a Doberman. If you are new to the breed, please keep in touch with us and we can provide you any necessary guidance. Some initial considerations beyond DHDR’s veterinary care include:

- **Other vaccinations:** Work with your personal vet to determine if there are any other vaccinations that would be beneficial for your dog. DHDR does not typically administer Lepto and Influenza vaccinations as our dogs are not usually in at-risk scenarios and we prefer not to overwhelm their bodies with vaccines. It is up to your vet to help you determine if these vaccines are right for your dog.
- **Heartworm Prevention:** It is critical that you keep your dog up to date on Heartworm Prevention and annual testing. Heartworm is becoming more prevalent, even in Arizona. Treatment is expensive, and painful, but can be easily prevented.

- **Flea and Tick Control:** In many areas of Arizona, and in our foster homes, fleas and ticks are not an issue, so we do not use preventative. If a dog came from a shelter, they received a dose then. Consult with your Vet if you feel your Vet if you feel flea & tick preventive measures may be necessary.
- **Valley Fever:** [Valley Fever](#) is a very common issue for dogs (and people) in Arizona. DHDR only tests dogs if we have a reason to suspect Valley Fever. However, if you can, we recommend annual Valley Fever testing to catch it early if it does impact your dog. The earlier it is caught, the better! If your Doberman does ever acquire Valley Fever, please reach out to us as we have a ton of great information.
- **Pro BNP:** The Doberman breed has a genetic correlation with the potential development of heart issues such as Dilated Cardiomyopathy (DCM). We recommend that your Doberman add on the “Pro BNP” blood test to his or her annual physical and read this [very important information](#). This test can identify heart issues early on and add years to the life of your Doberman. This is another topic we can provide information and guidance on should your dog ever be diagnosed with heart issues.
- **Color Dilution:** Did you adopt a blue or fawn Doberman? There are great supplements, like The Missing Link, that help maintain a healthy coat.
- **Supplements:** You may enjoy talking to your vet or local natural practitioner about what supplements could help your dog be its healthiest. Supplements exist for things like senior joints, urinary issues, coats, eyes, the heart, and more.
- **Nails:** It is recommended that a Doberman have its nails trimmed or grinded weekly or at least twice per month. Reach out to us for resources if you need tips!
- **Nutrition:** [www.DogFoodAdvisor.com](http://www.DogFoodAdvisor.com) is a great resource to ensure you are feeding a quality dog food to your pet. There are also raw feeding groups on Facebook, if you decide to go that route.

If you have any questions, or if you ever need guidance, please contact [Medical@azdoberescue.org](mailto:Medical@azdoberescue.org).