



## **Flanary Veterinary Clinic**

**[www.flanaryvet.com](http://www.flanaryvet.com)**

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### **MICROCHIP YOUR PET TODAY**

According to Schering-Plough, the makers of Homeagain pet microchips; the number one cause of pet death in the United States is physical loss. Statistics show that ten million pets are lost every year. Among those pets without any form of identification, 90% fail to be reunited with their owners. In other words, these pets are going missing, never to return home. Technological advances in pet identification have led to great strides in eliminating this terrible epidemic. Among these advances, microchipping is one of the most effective, economical, and safest alternatives for aiding in the recovery of lost pets. In fact, 94% of pets microchipped with Homeagain chips have been reunited with their families. With such staggering statistical support, it's hard to argue against the widespread use of these devices in our pet population.

Most of today's pet identification microchips work by transmitting an electronic bar code that is read with special scanners which most veterinarians, humane societies, pounds, animal control facilities, and animal rescue agencies have on hand. The microchip itself is approximately the size of a grain of rice. It is embedded under a pet's skin via a simple injection given by your veterinarian. Each individual bar code is registered in a national database that allows cross-referencing between owners and their pets. Consequently, any pet that is microchipped and scanned will be reunited with its owners. The microchip provides proof of ownership and permanent identification.

Homeagain microchips have even gone a step further in their pet recovery system by offering a sort of "amber alert" for our furry family members. In this new program, a single phone-call will alert the shelters and veterinary practices within a fifty-mile radius of where you report your pet missing to be on the lookout for those that fit his or her description. Furthermore, pertinent medical information for your pet will be communicated to the shelter or veterinary practice that finds the wandering pet; thus allowing any necessary medical attention to be given promptly and appropriately until you are reunited with your companion. This service is provided twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week nationwide. As an added perk, your pet's vaccination and medical records can be downloaded through a secured on-line website at anytime for boarding, grooming, or emergency purposes.

Considering the potential rewards of having your pet microchipped, the associated fees are extremely reasonable. Implantation fees will vary among veterinary practices but most brands of microchips can be implanted for less than a one-time fee of fifty dollars. This is a small price to pay for the continued love, affection, and companionship of our beloved pets and provides a large amount of peace-of-mind knowing that something can be done should a pet be lost.

Finally, having your pet implanted with a microchip is a very safe and simple procedure. The chip materials and implant devices are completely sterile, individually packaged, and made for one time use only; limiting the possibility of side effects to virtually none. There is no anesthesia required to place the microchip as it is given with a needle similar to a shot under the skin. In fact, the entire implantation can be done within seconds and is virtually painless. Consequently, your pet will be able to immediately go on to his or her normal activities without a second thought and you can rest assured that you have done everything possible to insure a longer life together.

Consequently, microchipping your pet is the best alternative available to avoid the physical loss of a special pet. It is not only effective, but economical and safe as well. As a pet owner, you are recommended to join the millions of others who have taken this small, effective step in protecting their pets. In doing so, you too can do your part in preventing lost and homeless pets!