

The Dangers of Online Pharmacies

1. Certain medications (i.e. Frontline, Heartgard, Sentinel, Advantage, etc..) being sold through third parties (catalogs, internet pharmacies, Costco, etc.) are diverted medications of unknown source. The manufacturers of these products do not sell to third parties. They only sell their products through veterinarians for a variety of safety reasons.
2. Most manufacturers will NOT guarantee their products unless they are purchased directly from a veterinarian (this does not include veterinary-run online pharmacies as no valid veterinarian/client/patient relationship exists). Please contact the manufacturer of the product for more information.
2. The EPA has found numerous counterfeit products available for purchase through internet pharmacies or catalogs. These counterfeit products did not contain the medications they claimed to. Diverted or counterfeit products could possibly be dangerous or even deadly to your pet. Please see: www.epa.gov/pesticides/health/illegalproducts/ or <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/factsheets/retailerfactsh.pdf> or www.epa.gov/pesticides/factsheets/flea-tick.htm for more information.
3. Many internet pharmacies and catalogs have been shut down or are currently under or have been under litigation in several states for illegal pharmacy practice (This includes very well-known/visible companies). For information from the FDA regarding internet pharmacies, please see: <http://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/ucm048164.htm>.
4. Certain products such as vaccinations and some medications must be handled in specific ways and kept at precise temperatures in order to maintain their effectiveness. This does not always happen when multiple shipping processes are used.
5. If you do not wish to take risks with your pet's health, the best place to purchase pet medications is through your veterinarian. There you can be certain the educated staff is working hard to provide your pet with the safest medication available directly from the actual manufacturer.