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Animal Hospitals Provide Critical Care Pets Need Emergency Care Too by [Denis Aguilar](#)

Article published on July 10th 2012 | [Pets](#)

In the modern world, there are many people who own at least one pet and it is not uncommon to find a household that keeps even more. Sometimes pets are used as a way to teach children responsibility while other times their companionship is a way to assuage the burden of loneliness. There are even specially trained animals, usually dogs, that aid the handicapped in their every day lives! It's an undeniable fact that domesticated animals taken a vital role in today's society and yet surprising that many people don't consider that their pets require the same medical care that they do. When you think of your dog or cat, you typically don't imagine that they could stand to come under the same medical scrutiny that you put yourself up to, for their own good.

Pets always seem to be there, happy and healthy, but they also place responsibility for their lives into their owner's hands. When a dog, cat, bird, etc. becomes ill, they are unable to tell anyone that they are in pain or sick, they can't schedule their own visit with the vet, or take themselves to get treatment for what ails them. Left to their own devices, an animal can only ever overcome their problems naturally, let the virus or disease run its course, or succumb to what ever medical problem or illness is currently afflicting them. They rely on their owners and caregivers to notice the signs of illness or injury and to take the proper steps; they rely on their owners and caregivers to take them for regular check-ups in order to head off potential problems before it risks serious damage.

However, even the most vigilant of pet owners may find that their beloved animal companions have taken ill or managed to hurt themselves. In those situations, what does one do? The answer is to search the surrounding area for an animal hospital that has an ICU or has an Intensivist on staff. Like hospitals for humans, any well appointed and reliable animal hospital should be able to care for the direst cases brought to them, and that requires the same kind of professionals and equipment that a human ICU needs.

A good guide to finding an excellent animal hospital is to find out if that hospital meets the guidelines established by the Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Society which are the national standard. Pennsylvania itself does not have regulations to govern critical and emergency care, so if you are able to locate a hospital that meets the standards of the VECSS then you know that you are seeing a facility that goes above and beyond the state-mandated standards to provide quality and vital care for your ill or injured pets. These are facilities that you can rely on to give your pets the best chance to survive whatever emergency that ails them with the aid of professional veterinarians who are experienced in emergency and intensive care for various kinds of pets.

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Article Keywords:

AVETS, pittsburgh emergency vet, emergency vet pittsburgh

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