



CITY PETS

DR. AMY ATTAS has been providing in-home vet care for more than 30 years.

City Pets' founder Dr. Amy Attas on the benefits of in-home pet care.

by Kayla Eddy photography by Eric Vitale

DR. AMY ATTAS has been providing in-home veterinary care for the last 30 years, but she's been passionate about animals her entire life. When she was little, she didn't play with dolls; she practiced giving her stuffed animals vaccines instead. After spending a few years working in a brick and mortar veterinary hospital, Dr. Attas decided to make the switch and start providing in-home care, allowing pets to receive life-saving care from the comfort of their own homes, putting them at ease during their toughest times.

DTM: How did City Pets start?

When I started City Pets 30 years ago, nobody was doing house calls for pets, and people that I really trusted told me that I needed to get a proper job, but I said, "I think I'm onto something here." Because within my first few days, I was seeing patients that I had previously seen in a brick and mortar hospital, and they were shaking and terrified when I saw them in the hospital, and here they were happy and back to themselves, so I realized the animals are so much happier, and the people are so much happier because it was so much more convenient. So I started it 30 years ago, and I really think my love for veterinary medicine has just gotten even stronger.

DTM: What are the benefits of in-home care?

I think the ones who really appreciate it the most

are the cats because they typically don't leave the house, so they see the cat carrier and they know that nothing good is going to happen and then it's a matter of getting them in the carrier, getting a taxi, going to the vet's office, waiting in the waiting room, hearing a barking dog, etc. So the advantages to cats are multiple.

A lot of our clients have multiple pets...two dogs, three dogs, five cats. I even have someone who has nine cats, so think about taking nine cats to

the vet. That's probably going to be four or five trips, but with me that may take two hours rather than five trips to the vet, so it's an enormous time saver for people who have multiple pets.

We deal with a lot of people who have their pets in assisted living facilities where they're no longer mobile enough to take their pet to the vet, but we can come and take care of them there. We also take care of people in hotels who don't have a vet, but the concierge knows of our service so they'll call us.

Typically what I say to people is that anything the vet can do in the exam room, we can do in your home.

DTM: Tell us about your first pets!

Our first pug, Duchess, had been a retired breeding dog that was available for adoption, so I grew up with Duchess. My second pug I obtained when I was in veterinary school. I was walking into the hospital and there was a little pug tied to a tree, which immediately made me run over to pet him, and there was a note on the tree that said, "My name is Old Man. I am blind. Please take good care of me." He went right home with me, and he stayed with me for about ten years."

For more information on Dr. Attas' services, visit dramyattas.com. For more information about City Pets, visit citypetsvets.com. **DT**

