

## House Soiling Tops List of Pet Behavior Concerns

**Veterinarians receive ten or more behavior questions per week, study says.**

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More than a third of veterinarians get asked behavior questions ten or more times per week, according to a study by Communication Solutions for Veterinarians on behalf of Invisible Fence Brand, of Knoxville, Tenn.

Pet owners' most frequently asked behavior questions ranked in priority order:

1. House soiling
2. Separation anxiety
3. Chewing
4. Aggression
5. Destroying furniture
6. Excessive barking
7. Digging
8. Breaking, damaging or bolting out open doors
9. Escaping from yard

Out of the 214 respondents of veterinarians and diplomats of the American College of Veterinary Behaviorists, 32 percent offer in-clinic training, videos, Internet courses or reference books on behavior for staff. Less than a third of veterinary hospitals have a designated staff member who provides behavior advice to clients.

Eighty-seven percent of respondents said they refer clients for expert advice. Seventy-two percent first recommend trainers, followed by veterinary behaviorists at 61 percent.