



**Prime Shield Home Investments**  
www.PrimeShieldHomeInvestments.com  
**(757) 744-3534**

**Sponsored by:**





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**Cat Rescues**

Dr. Aline Sevigny  
(D.V.M.)

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**Disclaimer**

- The information provided here is for your information only
- They are presented in a very concise and short version to help you in your Mission to provide better rescue and care and they are far to be complete
- If a cat / kitten does not look right, you NEED TO SEEK IMMEDIATE Veterinary Care and Advices from a Licensed Veterinarian to ensure sometimes the survival of this entrusted life into your hands
- If you sought Veterinary care and you cat is still not improving or the illness is "dragging", you NEED TO SEEK FOLLOW UP and see if there is no complications or new disease emerging
  - OR seek a second opinion

**ALWAYS RELY ON THE  
ADVICE AND  
RECOMMENDATIONS OF  
YOUR VETERINARIAN. THE  
ONE THAT ACTUALLY  
EXAMINE YOUR CAT/KITTEN.**

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# Our Mission Statement

Enhancing cat rescue education to better help our feline population & their caretakers!

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Graduated from Montreal University in Quebec/Canada in 2002.

Eager to work and put her skills to work, she moved directly from Quebec to Hampton Roads where she has been working for the past 17 years.

She enjoys helping people, remodel houses and loves to travel for work and scuba diving.

She has worked for Banfield, VCA, did relief work and now you can find her at Accredited Animal Hospital!



**About Dr. Sevigny**

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## Agenda

- Wellness Exam
- Diseases / Illnesses
- Treatments
- Quarantine
- Inventory
- Q&A



123RF.com

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# WHAT IS THAT?



meow360.com

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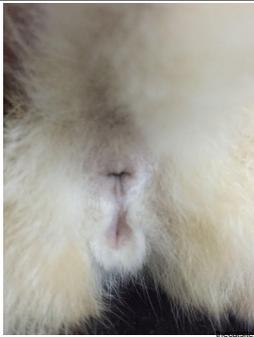
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- Gender?

Female - the urethral opening is vertical and immediately below the rectum!



icatcare.com

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- Gender?

It's a Boy !!! You can see a good "space" for the testicles between the rectum and the round urethral opening



icatcare.org

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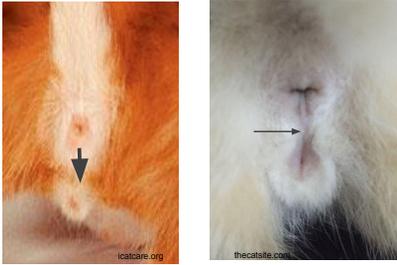
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### Can you see the difference?




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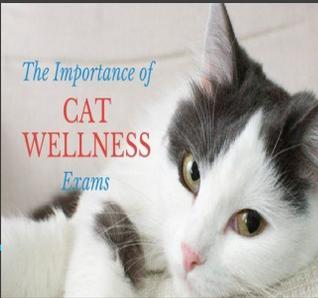


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### The Importance of CAT WELLNESS Exams



#### ROUTINE CARE

- Exams
- Vaccines
- Deworming
- Spay/ Neuter

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### LOGBOOK !

Keep a Logbook of every pet!!

- Name, date of intake
- Microchip if any
- Take a photo if possible and put it in the file!
- Locations: where did it go - one house to the next! Caretaker/Fosters
- Exam, Vet exam
- Wellness care type/date/ by whom: flea, deworming, ear cleaning
- Illnesses type/date/by whom
- Vaccines records (leave a copy with the Fosters - easier when goes to the Vet!
- Add new owner(s) and their contact info



DATE	TIME	BY WHOM	TYPE OF CARE	REMARKS
10/10/10	10:00	Jane Doe	Wellness Exam	Weight 10.5 lbs, good health
11/05/10	09:30	John Smith	Vaccines	Administered FVRCP
12/15/10	14:00	Emily White	Deworming	Administered Panacur
01/20/11	11:00	Michael Green	Exam	Weight 11.2 lbs, normal
02/10/11	10:15	Sarah Black	Exam	Weight 11.8 lbs, normal
03/05/11	13:45	David Brown	Exam	Weight 12.5 lbs, normal
04/01/11	10:30	Jane Doe	Exam	Weight 13.2 lbs, normal
05/15/11	11:00	John Smith	Exam	Weight 14.0 lbs, normal
06/01/11	10:00	Emily White	Exam	Weight 14.8 lbs, normal
07/10/11	14:30	Michael Green	Exam	Weight 15.5 lbs, normal
08/05/11	11:15	Sarah Black	Exam	Weight 16.2 lbs, normal
09/01/11	10:45	David Brown	Exam	Weight 17.0 lbs, normal

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## Intake Exam - Be Systematic!

- **Mentation**
    - alert, playful, depressed, lethargic
  - **Check skin**
    - Hydration
      - touch gums - if sticky after water and recheck in 10 minutes
      - skin tenting behind the neck (needs IV fluids)
    - Wounds, Swelling, Pain, Distended abdomen
    - Parasites
      - Fleas, Ticks, Maggots/wounds, Roundworms, Tapeworms
    - Hairloss
      - Ringworms
  - **Check ears**
    - dirty - dry or greasy wet
    - are they itchy when you rub them?
  - **Check eyes**
    - nice and clear
    - discharge: clear, yellow, greenish
    - clean or discharged crusts
  - **Mouth**
    - what do you see?
      - gums
      - under tongue for foreign body
      - teeth / gums
- Urogenital
- swollen / discharge
  - male or female



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## (Intake Exams)

- QUICK TRICKS FOR AGE:
  - Eyes and ears opening around 2 weeks old
  - 1 pound / month until about 6 months old
  - Incisors in at 16 weeks old
  - Canines in at 6 months
  - Brown line over fang around 1 year old



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## WHAT IS THAT?



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How old am I around at 2.5 pounds?



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How old am I?



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How old am I?



Veterinary Practice News

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## And Now when I smile with all my teeth?



markiplier.wikia.com

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## Vaccines

- **FVRCP or PRC** (Panleuko/Rhino/Calici)
  - Start at 6-8 weeks
  - Every 3 weeks until 15+ weeks old
- **Chlamydia**
  - non core - for cats at-risk
  - Two vaccines 3 weeks apart 9 weeks or older
- **FelV**
  - Start at 8 weeks
  - Two vaccines 3 weeks apart
- **Rabies**
  - Right rear
  - between 12-16 weeks by a Veterinarian (then yearly for PureVax vaccines)
- **FIV**
  - personally not recommending it
  - False Positive
    - with Snap Test Combo (in-house Elisa test)
    - for kittens through the maternal antibodies -- RETEST AFTER 5-6 MONTHS

ALL vaccines as low on the leg as possible

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Image by: Pinterest.com

## Diseases/ Illnesses

- Fleas
- Ringworm
- Ear Mites
- Herpes / Rhinotracheitis
- Calicivirus / Chlamydia
- Polyps
- Conjunctivitis/Corneal ulcer
- Stomatitis

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- Intestinal parasites
  - Roundworms
  - Hookworms
  - Tapeworms
  - Coccidiosis
- Parvovirus
- FIP
  - Fading Kitten Syndrome
  - Hypoglycemia
  - Hypothermia
  - Anemia

## More Diseases/ Illnesses

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## Fleas

**Name:** Ctenocephalides felis

**Description**

- parasites that drink blood of host which leads to anemia
- Cause itching
- Allergic reaction areas: lower back, around the neck

**Diagnostic:**

- Visual
- Flea comb
- Blood in bath water
- Black pepper like in fur near tail base



**Dawn Dish Soap Bath for intake !**

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## Flea Treatments OTC

**Treatment:**

- >2 days old: Frontline Spray\*  
Dawn dish soap
- >4 weeks or 2#: Capstar
- >8 weeks: Advantage\*  
Frontline\*
- >10 weeks: Seresto collar\*

**Prognosis:** Good to Excellent

**\* use Brand Names only!**

**Consequences:**

- Anemia
- Tapeworms

**NINJA TIP !**

- Capstar 2-25# dose will not only kill all the fleas off your cat in 20 minutes but also Maggots!
- It only last 24 hours so still need proper flea control

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## Ringworm

**Name:** Dermatophytosis (fungus)  
**Diagnostic:** dry, grey, scaly patch, usually hair loss  
**Caution:** zoonotic - very contagious



### Treatment

- Oral: Rx: Itraconazole, Terbinafine
- Bath:
  - Lime Sulfur Dip (1:16 = 8oz/gallon water): twice a week for 2 weeks then once a week for 4-6 weeks - AVOID NEAR FACE!
  - Shampoo containing 1-2% Ketoconazole, miconazole or 0.5% chlorazole - minimum 3 min. contact
- Terbinafine topical (Lamisil): OTC not as strong, apply twice a day over lesions to reduce contagion

**NEED AN E-COLLAR TO AVOID GROOMING AND INGESTION**

**ZOONOSIS!**

**Prognosis:** good

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## Ear Mites

### What are they?

- *Otodectes cynotis* i.e. tiny infectious bugs

### Symptoms

- excessive itching of the ears when you massage them
- scabs around the ear base

### Diagnostic

- black discharge
- mites or eggs visible under microscope

### Transmission

- via environment
- via contaminated animals

### Treatments

- ear cleaning needed
- clean the environment !!!
- Rx: revolution (selamectin)
- Rx: advantage multi (imidacloprid + moxidectin)

### Follow up

- ear swab 3-4 weeks later



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## Ear mites under microscope!



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2x0d0k011W>

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## Herpes

**Cause:** Herpes virus most common involved in Upper Respiratory Infection (URI)

### Symptoms

- Sneezing, Fever (up to 104F)
- Rhinitis, Conjunctivitis
- Ulcerative Keratitis (cornea ulcer caused by Herpes)
- Abortive and Central Nervous System possible

### Diagnostic

- Ocular/Nasal swelling & purulent discharge
- Sneezing - can become chronic
- Recurrent signs
- PCR testing
- Viral isolation
- Stained conjunctival smear

### Transmission

- Direct: via fomites - sneezing, grooming
- Indirect: via environment
- *In utero* - during pregnancy



Marvistavet.com

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## (Herpes)

### Treatments

- none for mild cases (if no secondary infection)
- antibiotics
- antivirals
- ophthalmic ointments/drops
- SQ fluids
- severe cases may require hospitalization
- can lead to pneumonia in severe case
- entice food consumption
- force feed

### Prognosis

- Good if treated early
- to Grave - can die

**PREVENTION IS THE KEY: VACCINATE !!!**



Pro.petfinder.com

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## Calicivirus

**Cause:** Virus

**Symptoms:** URI signs, conjunctivitis, oral ulcerations, pneumonia, sometimes fatal systemic disease

**Diagnostic:** incubation 3-5 days

- usually > 6 weeks old
- lesions in mouth
- culture, PCR

### Transmission

- common in multicat facilities, shelters, catteries

**Treatments:** outpatient unless pneumonia

- antibiotics, antiviral, supportive care

**Prognosis:** Good if successful antibiotics treatment!  
tend to be chronic!



WalkerVilvet.com

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## Chlamydiosis

**Cause:** *Chlamydia felis* (5-10% of Feline population)

**Symptoms:** mild to severe conjunctivitis, URI and mild pneumonia  
- can colonize mucosa of GI and Reproductive tract!

**Diagnostic:**

- usually <1 year old (but all ages possible)
- Conjunctivitis often granular, photophobia
- sometimes coughing, breathing difficulties, anorexia
- PCR, conjunctival swab

**Transmission:** common in multicat facilities, shelters, catteries

**Treatments:** antibiotics (systemic, ophthalmic) up to 4 weeks!!!

**Prognosis:** Excellent unless complication pneumonia or systemic disease



Blogandcat.blogspot.com

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## WHAT IS THAT?



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## WHAT IS THAT?

- A) Ringworms
- B) Tapeworms
- C) Roundworms
- D) Whipworms

The correct answer is:

**B) Tapeworms**

Tapeworms are very short  
Grain of rice-like; can be either  
white, off-white or Sesame-like!

YUM!

- you can find them where they sleep
- or in the stools

Wag!

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<http://www.dogscatspets.org/cats/tapeworms-in-cats/get-rid-tapeworms-cats/>

**WHAT IS THAT?**

- A) Ringworms
- B) Tapeworms
- C) Roundworms
- D) Whipworms

The correct answer is also:

**B) Tapeworms**

Tapeworms are very short, white or off-white Rice **BUT YOU CAN ALSO SEE THE "HEAD" OR THE "TAIL"!!**

- on their fur
- near their rectum
- or over the stools too

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**Panleukopenia**

Cause: Feline Parvovirus

Symptoms: Sudden onset of an acute intestinal viral infection, anorexia, depression, vomiting, diarrhea, dehydration, weight loss and high mortality

Diagnostic: Canine Parvovirus Snap Test

- Kittens 2-6 months

Transmission: Direct or indirect contaminations, environment

Treatments: Aggressive rehydration and supportive care

- Bleach 1:32 dilution (8oz in 1 gallon water)

Prognosis: Guarded during acute disease (5-7 days)

- more Guarded if WBC is <2,000 cells/dL



**VACCINATE!!!**

EXTREMELY STABLE AGAINST ENVIRONMENT, TEMPERATURE AND MOST DESINFECTANT!

EXTREMELY STABLE SURVIVING **FOR YEARS** IN CONTAMINATED PREMISES!!

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**Felv / Feline Leukemia**

Symptoms: interfere with the immune system = inability to fight off disease

Diagnostic

- snap test - "in-house Elisa"
- If Positive, re-test > 60 days
- If Negative, re-test > 30 days in case of incubation period
- False Positive for kitten if nursing up to 5-6 months!

Transmission

- **through bodily fluids:** dishes, grooming, nursing, bite wounds

Treatments

- supportive care only

Prognosis

- More Grave than FIV: "Friendly Virus"

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## FIV / Feline Immunodeficiency Virus

Symptoms: interfere with the immune system = inability to fight off disease

### Diagnostic

- NONE EASILY ACCESSIBLE: snap test - "in-house Eiba" UNABLE TO DETECT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN INFECTION AND VACCINATION !
- If Positive, re-test > 60 days
- If Negative, re-test > 30 days in case of incubation period
- False Positive for kitten if nursing up to 5-6 months !

### Transmission

- through bite wounds

### Treatments

- supportive care only

Prognosis: Ideally do no let go outside

- Poor

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## FIP

**Cause:** Feline coronavirus

**Symptoms:** systemic, affect the immune system

- replicates in upper airways, GI, nervous system, eye
- slow onset, persistent and non-responsive fever
- gradual weight loss, stunting in kittens
- Wet and Dry forms

**Diagnostic:** 3 months to 2 years: <10% of + population=> disease

- very difficult prior death
- antibiotics unresponsive
- Wet form: distended abdomen - abd fluids check
- Dry form: post-mortem

**Transmission:** Contact with Antibody-positive, catteries

**Treatments:** Supportive care only, Routine disinfection

**Prognosis:** Poor - high mortality



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## Now Felv/Fiv Test: "To Test" or "Not To Test" ?

### FACTS:

1. Less than 2.5% population in North America is Positive
2. Positive Cats can live a Long and Happy Lives
  - a. with good Nutritional Care
  - b. and good Medical Care
3. Risk of transmission of disease is low between friendly animals
4. Greatly reduced via sterilization (less fights and arguments!)

### News for our friend FIV

1. Hope: Witness and Antigen Rapid ELISA tests are able to distinguish between vaccination / disease :)
2. False Positive in kittens due to Maternal Antibodies up to 5-6 months old
  - a. IF POSITIVE RETEST AFTER 6 MONTHS OLD!
3. False Positive with vaccination and regular "in-house ELISA test"

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# Rabies

**! VACCINATE!!**

**Cause:** Rhabdoviridae

**Sources:** Endemic among Fox, Raccoon, Skunk, Coyote and some bats!

**Symptoms:** change of behavior: either very sweet (wild animal) or "Cujo-like" (90% of affected cats)

- i.e. change in attitude, anxiety, ERRATIC BEHAVIOR!
- Hypersalivation, fever, dilated pupils

**Diagnostic:** suspicion pre-mortem, diagnostic post-mortem only

**Transmission:** bite wounds, saliva, oral mucosa, transdermal??

**Treatments:** none. QUARANTINE stray animal: LOCK ON CAGE!

**Prognosis:** Grave



The Mad Cat Lady

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# WHAT IS THAT?




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# WHAT IS THAT?



A) Ringworms  
B) Tapeworms  
C) Roundworms  
D) Whipworms

The correct answer is:  
**C) Roundworms**

*Roundworms are long, white spaghetti shaped*

- you can find them in any vomitus
- in the stools
- or still coming out!

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## Conjunctivitis / Keratitis Corneal Ulcer

### Symptoms

- Squinting, Light sensitivity
- Ocular discharge, Swelling conjunctives

### Diagnostics

- Eye exam, eye stain

### Complications

- Corneal ulcer
- Corneal perforation

### Treatment

- treat for bacteria agents and infections, referral



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## Polyps

### Cause

- Benign mass from epithelium in Tympanic Bullae or Eustachian Tube resulting from a Chronic Inflammatory processes.

### Location

- can extend to either the Nasopharynx and sometimes into the Ear Canal

### Symptoms

- chronic mucopurulent discharge
- noisy breathing, stidor, voice change, dysphagia/problem eating
- nystagmus/ eye movements, dizziness, nystagmus

### Diagnostic:

visualization

**Treatment:** removed it and supportive care



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## Stomatitis

Inflammation of the entire mouth

### Cause:

- gross amounts of plasma cells
- immune reaction to plaque build up

### Clinical Signs:

- trouble eating
- weight loss
- decreased grooming
- excess salivation,
- severe bad breath

### Diagnostic:

- redness in throat
- severe inflammation at root of teeth

### Treatment:

- removal of teeth
- Rx: Prednisolone



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# WHAT IS THAT?



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# WHAT IS THAT?

You see a tons of dirt in the coat... and "no" it's not just dirt!

The correct answer is:

**Flea Feces!!**

- If you are not sure, ruffle the fur over a white surface and put some water on it and you will see the blood smears!

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# Treatments

- Ear Cleaning
- Quarantine Protocols
- Supportive care
- Giving Subcutaneous fluids
- Diets - What are they talking about?

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## Fading Kitten Syndrome

### Description

- kitten that appears healthy at birth but gradually "fade" and die within the first two weeks of life
- Can also happen up to 4-5 weeks (weaning period)

### Clinical Signs

- Weakness, non responding, collapse
- Abnormal behavior, lethargy, depression
- Ataxia, muscle stiffness, shivering, cold to touch
- Difficulty breathing, Fixed pupils, Coma

### Cause

- hypothermia
- hypoglycemia
- dehydration
- inadequate nursing or poor quality of milk
- congenital



thevetlife.com

**IMMEDIATE CARE IS CRITICAL!  
VETERINARY CARE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IF  
NOT WORKING!**

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## Hypothermia

### Body temperature below:

- Mild Hypothermia: 90-99F
- Moderate: 82-90F → THINK ABOUT GOING TO YOUR VET!
- Severe: <82F → GO TO YOUR VET!

### Cause

- Thermoregulation not adequate
- Ambient temperature
- Hypoglycemia and lack of energy
- Impaired behavioral response



www.kittenandcupcakes.com

### Treatment

- Slow rewarming
- Start with the trunk!
- No Direct heat (caution with heating pad!!!)
- Treat Hypoglycemia!
- Warm SQ fluids if dehydrated

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## Hypoglycemia

### Clinical signs

- Lethargy, Depression, Weakness, Collapse
- Exercise intolerance, Muscle Tremors, Seizures

### Cause

- Thermoregulation not adequate
- Ambient temperature, illnesses
- Hypoglycemia and lack of energy
- Impaired behavioral response: neonate not moving if cold
- Diseases: liver, pancreas, toxic, inflammatory, glycogen storage diseases



DailyMotion

### Treatment

- Karo Syrup over gums
- Once can swallow: Nutrical
  - OR Dextrose 50% by mouth (2ml/kg)
- Frequent feeding: A/D or Recovery (Rx from your vet)
- IF NOT RESPONDING - GO TO YOUR VET!

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## Anemia

Hematocrit < 35-55%

Blood Transfusion <15-18% for slow blood loss

### Cause

- Normal: young kittens, neonates
- Abnormal production: kidney disease, bone marrow, iron deficiency, liver disease
- Overuse: chronic disease, intravascular coagulation
- Destruction or loss: bleeding, toxin/toxic, blood parasites, auto-immune

### Clinical signs

- Pallor, Weakness, Exercise intolerance
- Anorexia, Heart murmur, Tachycardia, Jaundice

\*\*\* DEPENDS ON THE DEGREE AND RAPIDITY OF ANEMIA

- If very slow, the body has time to adapt!!!! (down to 10% !!!)
- If sudden: shock and possible death



©Stockphoto.com

### Treatments

- If rapid blood transfusion
- If slow:
  - Iron supplement (vet)
  - Treat cause: surgery, deworming, antibiotics, antivirals, autoimmune suppressant drugs, remove toxic...

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## How to clean ears!

### Material

- Cotton balls or Cotton roll
- Ear flush (Epi-Otic Advanced)
- Towel and Nail Trimmer !!!

### How To

- Warm up the ear flush like a milk bottle for a baby! 5-10 min. in TAP water
- Get everything ready!
- Trim nail and Burrito the kitty!
- Fill up ear canal -- massage gently -- need to break down the chunks and wax
- They can shake or not their head
- Use the cotton to go in the ear canal and wipe it off
- Repeat! IT DOES NOT HAVE TO BE SPARKLING CLEAN !!
- IF USE COTTON SWAB - ONLY FOR THE EAR SKIN FOLD NOT TO PACK IT DOWN!



kallara.org

Resources: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9aX3ex9CIUY>  
<https://goo.gl/h7mgdM>

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## Sub-cutaneous Fluids

### Material

- Lactated Ringer Solution
- Drip Set
- Needles (one for each injection)

### How To

- Insert a new needle in the drip set (if did not do it before) / clamps the venoset over the line
- Insert other end into the IV fluids bag Port / hang bag high near the ceiling
- Tend the skin behind the shoulder blades and introduce the needle parallel to the body
- Unclamp the line and keep an eye on how much is being delivered
- Reclamp the line, remove gently the needle and expect some leakage to be coming out. You can hold it for a minute or just wipe it off!
- Change the needle now to leave a "clean" needle for storage



Catster - live with catbirds!

**YOU MUST CLEAR THE SQ FLUIDS BY YOUR VET FIRST!!**  
sq fluids can hurt a pet if heart condition, anemia, tachycardia, can introduce infection...  
=> MORAL: CLEAR IT FIRST!

Resources: <https://www.vin.com/veterinarypartner/default.aspx?pid=19239&id=4952656>

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## Quarantine!

1. Set up 3 rooms ideally:
  - 1st for Intakes - appears healthy, fleas, worms
  - 2nd Isolation - URI, Conjunctivitis, Ringworms
  - 3rd Intensive - Fading Kitten Syndrome, seizures, hypothermia
2. **LIMIT THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE ASSIGNED TO THIS ROOM -- NO BACK AND FORTH !!!!**
3. Have disposable gowns and gloves and a foot bath (Parvocidal products or Bleach 1:32)
4. Each intake gets an Initial Exam then goes in the appropriate room for 10 days of observation unless already sick then start treatment if possible and needed
5. Basic care: Flea control if not sick, Vaccines if possible, Deworming, Ear Mites Treatment
6. Anything that goes into those rooms MUST STAY in those rooms, no cross contamination!
7. Clean Thoroughly Daily and between pets (10 minutes contact before wiping off): walls, floor, wipe off material, change foot bath daily
8. Laundry should be done separately for Quarantine - use bleach when washing

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## Inventory to keep on hand

- Flea ctrl + Pyrantel Feline
- Epi-Otic Advanced Ear Cleaner + Cotton roll/balls
- Humidifier
- Nutri-Cal/L-Lysine 500mg (q 12hrs)
- Canned food: a/d, Recovery
- More advance: SQ fluids kit
- Karo syrup/ Dextrose 50%
- Litter box + Towels:quarantine
- Bleach
- Heating Pad (auto-shut off)
- Disposable gowns/gloves



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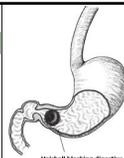
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## BONUS: Vomiting often equal Hairballs!

= Hairballs can be frustrating and missed very easily!

- You will find usually:
  - Clear mucus on the floor
  - Yellow bile
  - White foam
  - Intact food (20-30 minutes after a meal)
  - 1 times out of 20 you may see finally a hairball!
- Give Hairball control - 1 tsp once a day for a week when vomiting then every Sundays and Wednesdays!
- TIP: Food with hairball control and treats are NOT enough!



Hairball blocking digestive process of the G.I. Tract  
PetCoach



VetoDirect.com

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# Last note about Diets !

Two articles that are emerging and bringing a lot of concerns for our pets (dogs are in those articles but cats are more sensitives) regarding a very specific heart disease called Dilated Cardiomyopathy!

1. **FDA Investigating Potential Connection Between Diet and Cases of Canine Heart Disease**
2. **It's Not Just Grain-Free** - from Tufts University, MA

Recommended Diets\*: *Royal Canin, Science Diet and Purina*

\*.they provide data and research on their diets and how it affects our pets, therefore they can make proper and well balanced diets

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- Senior at First Colonial High School
  - in the Legal Studies Academy
- Volunteer at SPCA
- Shadows Dr. Sevigny
- Pet lover and owner of two Australian Shepherds



**Catrina  
McCoy**

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**Thank you !**

- Credits:
- Vets
  - VIN



Pinterest: Zazffe.com

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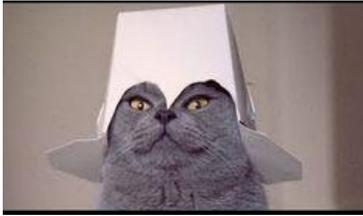
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**Q&A**



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