

Rx \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Your cat has been diagnosed with feline cystitis. Most cases of feline cystitis are triggered by stress in the cat's environment. Unlike people and dogs, urinary tract infections are *very uncommon* in cats with feline cystitis.

**Your cat has NOT been prescribed antibiotics, because antibiotics are not effective for your cat's feline cystitis and can cause adverse effects such as inappetence, vomiting, and diarrhea.**

Making changes at home can help resolve clinical signs and minimize chance of recurrence of cystitis!

- Feed wet or canned food to help increase water intake.
- Ensure access to several sources of water within your household (water bowls, running water, fountains).
- Increase the number of litterboxes and be sure that they are cleaned regularly.
- Provide environmental enrichment, such as toys, perches, scratching posts, and access to private space.

Medications that might be indicated for some cystitis cats:

- Pain medications (such as buprenorphine or gabapentin) can be helpful to alleviate discomfort in cats with severe cystitis.
- Urethral relaxants (such as tamsulosin or prazosin) can be helpful to improve urination, especially in male cats with cystitis.
- Feliway® is a pheromone that helps cats feel more comfortable in their environment and may help reduce the signs of cystitis.

Additional Tips:

- Please call or bring your cat back for recheck if clinical signs do not improve in \_\_\_\_\_ days or worsen at any time. A cat who is straining to urinate or cannot urinate can be a medical emergency.
  - Emergency unobstruction and further diagnostic tests might be warranted (radiographs, bloodwork, urinalysis/culture).



**Kansas Healthcare-Associated Infections  
& Antimicrobial Resistance Advisory Group**

Hosted by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and KFMC Health Improvement Partners

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