

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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