

### Severe and or Chronic Diarrhea in Shelter Cat

*Kittens should follow other diarrhea protocol*

#### **R/o parasites first:**

##### **Fecal test**

- If find parasite, treat appropriately
- If do not find parasite, do consecutive trials of the following with kaolin and Intestinal diet:
  - Metro 10mg/kg/day x 2weeks
  - Marquis SID x 5 days
  - Panacur BID x 7 days
  - Tylan powder – pinch in food bid x 10 days
  - Give each medicine at least 2 days to work before adding another, if add another, keep on the first one until prescription is finished
- If some improvement within 48 hours of starting one med, continue that med upon Dr recommendation even if not completely cured

*If no improvement after all have been tried, then it is considered Chronic Diarrhea*

Try the following all at once:

- 250mcg Vit B12 weekly x 6 weeks
- Ask questions about hyperthyroid, consider test or empirical treatment
- Limited ingredient diet trial
- Abdominal palpation by Doctor for masses
- **Tests:**
  - Fecal cytology: Roll a moistened swab against the rectal wall and stain. If neutrophils are present, do a fecal culture for salmonella, clostridium, and campylobacter. If eosinophils are present, re-worm with fenbendazole.
  - Trictrichomonas test- insert a moistened swab a few cm into the rectum and examine the mucoid part of the feces for motile organisms. They look like this: [LongLink @ www.ncsu.edu...](http://www.ncsu.edu...) Even better is to perform a colonic flush and then examine: [http://www.ncsu.edu/project/cvm\\_gookin/buttflush.mov](http://www.ncsu.edu/project/cvm_gookin/buttflush.mov) . Once the sample has been checked, if you can't see them, you can culture them in an InPouch tritrich test kit. More information here: [LongLink @ www.cvm.ncsu.edu...](http://www.cvm.ncsu.edu...)
- If have funds:
  - Lab Fecal test: give the owner a collection jar and ask her to collect a fecal sample on 3 consecutive days. Ask the owner to keep the jar in the fridge and pool the samples together into it. Send the sample to the lab and request centrifugation and ZnSO4 float to check for worm ova, giardia, cryptosporidium, and coccidia. Perform a giardia antigen test and consider cryptosporidium IFA.
  - Test for Cobalamine/folate/fpli, tli
  - Consider thyroid test
  - Ultrasound
- If feel certain it is not infectious based on above protocols, try these in consecutive order until see result (do not do both at same time):
  - Prednisone 2mg/kg/day with Pepcid AC 2.5mg sid
  - "Raw" diet or all meat diet (Instincts or Wellness brands)