

Cat URI Cheat Sheet

Level One

- Nose & Eyes: yellow/green nasal and/or eye discharge, nasal "crust" (aka boogers). +/- sneezing.
- Activity Level: Normal
- Appetite: Good
- Fever: Mild or none
- Congestion: None

Rx: Doxycycline (100mg/ml) - 0.05ml/pound once a day x 10 days (10mg/kg)

IF COLORED EYE DISCHARGE, CONJUNCTIVITIS (red/swollen eye tissue) -

Rx: Gentamicin Ophthalmic - one drop in both eyes twice daily x 10 days*

Switch to azith after 3 days if there is zero improvement or symptoms are worsening. Stop Doxy

Level two

Not improving after 3 days on doxycycline.

- Nose & Eyes: Moderate to heavy discharge
- Activity Level: Slightly decreased
- Appetite: Moderate, still eating
- Fever: Mild to moderate
- Congestion: Snuffly, audible/can be heard

Rx: Azithromycin 40mg/ml once a day for 5 days then once every 3rd day for 3 doses (10mg/kg)

IF COLORED EYE DISCHARGE/CONJUNCTIVITIS & NOT RESPONDING TO GENTAMICIN -

Rx: Erythromycin Ophthalmic Ointment - one drop in both eyes twice daily x 10 days

Switch to Baytril after 3 days if there is zero improvement or symptoms are worsening. Stop azith.

Level Three (VET)

Any combination of the following: congested, fever, not eating, open mouth breathing, lethargic. Not responding to Doxy or azith. Consult veterinarian.

*Rx: Baytril 5mg/kg PO SID x 10 days, nebulize, fluids, force feed if not eating, +/- hospitalize
Consult vet for eye medication*

Any cat that has not eaten in 48hrs MUST be force fed. See Force Feeding Chart

URI Supportive Care

1. Dehydration or not eating x 36 hours:
 - a. 100 mLs/10 pounds SQ LRS q 24 hours x 2-3 days
2. Congestion
 - a. Keep nose clean
 - b. Nebulize for 10 minutes BID – TID or more if very congested
 - c. +/- saline nose drops
3. Inappetent cat > 4 months of age:
 - a. Oral exam. If ulcers noted discuss with vet. If no ulcers noted:
 - i. Try warming food. Offer strong smelling food or tuna or buffet. Encourage eating with petting/talking.
 - b. If cat has not eaten > 2 days:
 - i. Mirtazapine 15 mg tab – ¼ T PO q 72 hours OR
 - ii. Cyproheptadine 2-4 mg per cat q 12 – 24 hours PO
 - c. If Cat continues to not eat will need force feeding or feeding tube. Discuss with vet.
 - d. Monitor weight daily
4. Inappetent cat < 4 months of age:
 - a. Start syringe feeding immediately
 - b. Discuss medications with vet if needed