

# *Information Sheet*

## **Aftercare of your pet after hospitalisation and intravenous fluid administration for gastro-enteritis**

- Your pet has been seriously ill and needed intravenous fluids ( a drip) to help recovery from severe gastro-enteritis - vomiting or diarrhoea or both.
- When you collect your pet although the vets and nurses caring for him or her will be satisfied that your pet has recovered , full recovery may take several more days.
- You may well see continuing diarrhoea or loose motions for several days - this happens because it takes some time for the intestine to recover fully from the damage caused by the illness. This should however be less severe than before admission , and if you are concerned about it bring your pet back to the surgery or ring us.
- There will be medication to give your pet at home ,please follow the directions on the packet or bottle.
- Once you have your pet home make sure there is an adequate supply of clean and fresh water, you may need to restrict access to too much water initially.

### **FEEDING**

For the first 2 days after returning home your pet should have a very light diet - this should consist of 4 or 5 small meals of easily digestible food. For example cereals, rice, pasta, cooked egg or if your pet is used to milk you can give milky foods (however some animals lose the ability to digest milk and so don't give milk if your pet has not had any for a long time). Introduce meat only cautiously and in small quantities as your pet recovers.

After the first 2 days you can reintroduce your pet's normal diet. However it is best to do this gradually, so at first give more frequent and smaller meals than normal.

We will usually want to see your pet to check on full recovery in the 2 to 3 days after you take your pet home, if you have any queries in the meantime do not hesitate to ring to speak to one of the nurses or vets about your pet's condition

Telephone us on :- (01909) 562319