**Disclaimer:** We want your pet to get the most benefit from his or her medicine. This handout is a summary of useful information to help you understand your pet's medication and to administer it safely. Other information about this medicine may be important for you to know. Please talk with your veterinarian for more information and other special considerations for your specific pet.

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## **GIVING YOUR CAT CAPSULE MEDICATION:**

If there are <u>no</u> dietary restrictions for your cat, a veterinarian may recommend giving the medication with food.

- 1. Give a small amount of food without the medication to lower your cat's suspicion.
- 2. Mix the appropriate dose of medication with a small amount of canned food.
- 3. Do not mix the medication with the entire meal, since your cat may not finish their whole meal and will not receive the appropriate dose of medication.

If your cat does have dietary restrictions, will not accept the medication in food, or the medication cannot be taken with food, here are some tips:

- 1. Get the capsule out of the bottle and place it in a convenient location.
- 2. In a regular voice, call your cat over to the place in which the medication will be administered. If you do not sound worried or concerned, your cat will feel the same way.
- 3. Place your cat's back against something so that your cat cannot back away from you, for example placing your cat between your knees or against your chest. It may be helpful to wrap your cat in a blanket so that just the head pops out.
- 4. Hold the capsule between your thumb and index finger. (If you are right-handed, use your right hand)
- 5. Using your other hand, gently but firmly grasp your cat's head from above with your thumb and pry open the mouth at the corners of the lips.
- 6. Tilt your cat's head back so that they are looking at the ceiling. The lower jaw should drop automatically.
- 7. Place the capsule as far back as possible, getting over the hump of the tongue.
- 8. Close your cat's mouth shut, hold it closed, and lower the head back to normal position, making swallowing easier.
- 9. Gently rub or blow on your cat's nose to stimulate your cat to lick their nose and then swallow.
- 10. Stroking your cat, speaking softly, or giving your cat a treat afterwards may ease the process of administering the medication next time.

## Tips:

• It may help to have your cat's nails trimmed prior to giving the medication.





