



4716 Roswell Rd., NE
Atlanta, GA 30342
(404) 257-0048
FAX (404) 255-1156
www.thecatdoctoratlanta.com

Subcutaneous Fluid Administration

1. Remove the bag of fluids and the IV set from their wrappers.
2. Turn off the IV set (roll the thumbwheel down).
3. Pull the tab off the bag of fluids, remove the covering from the long “spike” on the chamber of the IV set, and push it into the bag of fluids. Pull the small cover off the vent next to the chamber and push the cover from the spike onto the vent snugly.
4. Squeeze the chamber of the IV set to fill 1/3 to 1/2 full. If the chamber gets too full, invert and squeeze some back into the bag of fluids.
5. Run enough fluids through the IV set to expel the air and attach a needle (it’s ok if there is a small amount of air in the IV set.)
6. Place the needle subcutaneously (under the skin) just in front of the rear leg, on the side of the abdomen.
7. Open the IV set (thumbwheel.) It may sting a little, but this will quickly stop.
8. If fluids drip from the skin, slowly pull the needle back until the dripping stops, wait a minute or two then advance the needle into the “bubble” of fluids that forms under the skin.
9. Place as much of the IV line as possible into a hot water bath **AFTER** the fluids are running.
10. Press on the skin while withdrawing the needle for a minute after fluid administration is complete.
11. Replace the needle before you administer fluids again.