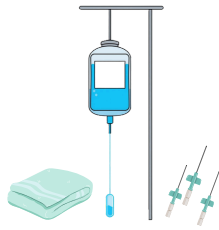


# Subcutaneous Fluids



one



## Gather and Prepare your supplies

- Bag of Fluids (Lactated Ringers or Normal Saline)
- IV Fluid line
- Sterile Needles (18 - 22 gauge)
- Towel
- Tasty Treat
- Hang the bag of fluids higher than the cat
- Let the fluid run through the tubing so there are no bubbles
- Ensure a new, sterile needle is on the end of the line

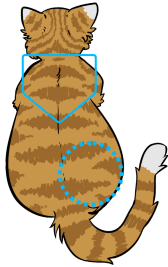
two



## Prepare the Cat

- Place the cat someplace comfortable (floor, between your legs, chair, countertop, cat bed)
- Optional - Wrap the cat in a towel (Purrito) while still allowing access to the back of neck/shoulders area.

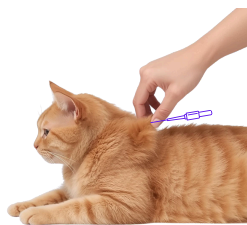
three



## Find the spot

- Best location is the loose skin between the shoulder blades. The skin over the hips can also be used if other location is unavailable.
- Then lift up the skin to form a tent with your non-dominant hand

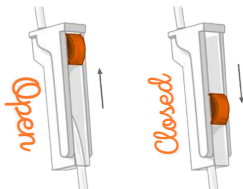
four



## Inserting the needle

- Insert the needle into the base of the tented skin while keeping the needle at about a 30° to 40° angle.
- Never insert the needle deeply or downward into the cat
- Once the needle is inserted, release the skin tent and use that hand to rub and reassure cat or apply a gently scruff.

five



## Start Fluids

- With dominant hand, grab the fluid lock and roll upwards to start fluids.
- The cat may wiggle a little when the fluids start. Be prepared to scruff and have a tasty treat ready to distract
- Once you have given the prescribed amount of fluids, close the fluid lock by rolling it downwards.

six



## Wrap it up

- As you remove the needle, pinch the area where the needle was inserted with your other hand and hold for a few seconds.
- Some fluids may leak and it may be bloodtinged (this is normal).
- Reward the cat for doing a great job!
- Store fluids with a new sterile needle in a safe, dark place to prevent contamination.