**PALMETTO ANIMAL LEAGUE**

**FELINE INTAKE PROCEDURES**

**Key points:**

* Our goal is to create stress free living with a high level of veterinary care within our limited space. We know both are needed to move animals through the intake process and to the adoption floor as quickly and as healthy as possible.
* Vaccination, deworming, and bathing protocols are designed to prevent disease and illness outbreak; prevention is always preferred to treatment.

**Intake steps:**

1. ALL cats are to receive a Peroxiwash bath as soon as possible after arriving at PAL!
2. Kittens less than 6 weeks old:
   1. Bath/combing to remove fleas
   2. If 1-2 pounds, may administer Capstar (in addition to bathing)
   3. Strongid: every 2 weeks (0.1-0.2ml/lb)
   4. Fecal
3. Kittens between 6 weeks and 6 months old:
   1. FeLV/FIV combo test
      1. “Triple test” including HW is not needed at this age due to the time it takes for heartworm to develop from the time of the mosquito bite
   2. Vaccinations:
      1. FVRCP every 2 weeks while in the shelter until kittens are 4 months old

If kitten is 4-6 months old at intake, 2 doses of FVRCP, 2 weeks apart

* + 1. RV after 12 weeks; if true birthdate is unknown, it’s better to err on the side of caution and wait to give the vaccine rather than give it too early
  1. Deworming:
     1. Strongid: 1 dose on day of admission, and then every 2 weeks while in the shelter through completion of vaccine series (dosed at 0.1-0.2ml/lb)
     2. Secnidazole: 1 dose on day of admission (dosed at 0.1ml/pound)
     3. Ponazuril: once a day for 3 consecutive days, starting the morning after intake (dosed at 0.15ml/lb)
     4. Droncit: IF 8 weeks or older AND fleas present at intake; repeat dosage in 1 month
     5. Fecal!
  2. Black light examination:
     1. Lesions that are positive under the Woods lamp should be cultured.
     2. Lesions that are suspicious for ringworm, but negative under the Woods lamp should also be cultured, and the cat should remain in his/her cat condo until culture results are complete.
  3. Flea treatment
     1. Advantage: 0.2ml for kittens minimum 8 weeks/2 pounds, 0.4ml for larger cats
  4. Schedule spay/neuter: minimum 3 months/3 pounds for females; 2 months/2 pounds for males

1. Young cats between 6 months and 1 year old:
   1. FeLV/FIV/HW combo test
   2. Vaccination:
      1. FVRCP: 2 doses, 2 weeks apart
      2. RV: 1 dose (1 year duration)
   3. Deworming:
      1. Strongid: 2 doses, 2 weeks apart (dosed at 0.1-0.2ml/lb)
      2. Secnidazole: 1 dose on day of admission (dosed at 0.1ml/pound)
      3. Ponazuril: once a day for 3 consecutive days, starting the morning after intake (0.15ml/lb)
      4. Droncit: If fleas are present at intake; repeat in 1 month
      5. Fecal!
   4. Black light examination (see notes above re: culture)
   5. Flea treatment:
      1. Advantage: 0.4ml for average sized-cat
   6. Schedule spay/neuter
2. Adult cats over one year old:
   1. FeLV/FIV/HW combo test
   2. Vaccination:
      1. FVRCP: 2 doses, 2 weeks apart (unless a history of prior vaccination exists)
      2. RV: 1 dose
   3. Deworming:
      1. Strongid: 2 doses, 2 weeks apart (dosed at 0.1-0.2ml/lb)
      2. Secnidazole: 1 dose on day of admission (dosed at 0.1ml/pound)
      3. Ponazuril: once a day for 3 consecutive days, starting the morning after intake (0.15ml/lb)
      4. Droncit: If fleas are present at intake; repeat in 1 month
      5. Fecal!
   4. Black light examination (see notes above re: culture)
   5. Flea treatment:
      1. Advantage: 0.4ml for average sized-cat
   6. Schedule spay/neuter
3. Pregnant and/or nursing mothers:
   1. FeLV/FIV/heartworm combo test
   2. Vaccination:
      1. RV only
   3. Deworming:
      1. Strongid: 2 doses, 2 weeks apart (0.1-0.2ml/lb)
   4. Flea treatment:
      1. Selamectin (Senergy, Selarid, or Revolution)
4. All new intake cats should be held for 48 hours before being moved to an adoption room.

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