

THE *Feline* HOSPITAL

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SUBCUTANEOUS FLUID ADMINISTRATION

1. Find a place to inject fluids. Use one hand to pull up on your cats' skin. Use your thumb and forefinger to pull upward on fur forming a "tent".
2. Use your opposite hand to feel for the tent, this indentation is where you want to insert the needle.
3. Keep the needle parallel to your cat's body and gently insert the needle. You should feel a slight "pop" as the needle enters the skin.
4. Roll the clamp on the I.V. line upward to initiate the fluid to flow. At this point you may notice that the fluids are coming out of the skin. If this occurs, roll the clamp down to stop fluids from flowing and back the needle up a little and restart fluids. You may need to find a different place to reinsert the needle if this doesn't work.
5. Administer the correct amount of fluids. A liter bag of fluids contains 1000 milliliters of solution.

The numbers on the bag go up as you use the fluids. Before taking the needle out of your cat's skin, roll the clamp upward to stop flow.

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- Use your judgement when deciding how many milliliters (mls) of fluids your cat will tolerate in one spot. - Generally 100 mls per injection site is tolerated, however it may be more or less.
 - Occasionally when administering fluids you may enter a small blood vessel with the needle, this is common and bleeding should be minimal.