

Staff protocol for making sure medicine gets taken

It's not enough to diagnose a pet's problem and write out a prescription. It's not even enough to send the client home with medication. Pet owners need the help of everyone at the clinic to make sure medicine doesn't end up on the floor.

1. Explain why the medicine is important.

- Educate pet owners about the pet's condition and how the medicine works to treat it.
- Make sure everyone is aware of what could happen to the pet if the medicine is not taken as prescribed (prolonged illness, additional health problems, etc.).
- Use the GREENIES® PILL POCKETS® Treats laminated medication guide to communicate key points.



2. Ask about their prior experiences with giving medicine.

- Find out if they've ever given medicine to this pet or any pet before.
- If so, ask if they had any problems (struggling, hiding or spitting out pills).
- If new to giving medicine, explain the challenges that can occur.

3. Make sure they know exactly what they will need to do.

- Demonstrate the appropriate way to give medicine to the pet.
- Explain how GREENIES® PILL POCKETS® Treats can help hide the taste and smell of the medicine and make the process easier.
- If possible, allow the pet owner to give the first dose of medicine at the clinic.
- Ask if they have any questions and tell them to call if they have any trouble giving the medicine at home.

Following these steps with every prescription can help you achieve better compliance.



Pilling aids: What's best for the pet?

When pet owners have trouble giving medication to their pets, they often try to disguise the unpleasant taste with food that's lying around the house. But this behavior may be doing more harm than good.

Advise against people food.

Foods such as hot dogs, peanut butter and cheese add fat and calories that may contribute to obesity, a condition associated with heart problems, diabetes and osteoarthritis.



One ounce of cheese for a 20 lb. dog is equivalent to one and a half hamburgers for an average human.¹

Advise against dry pilling.

Medicine that is given plain can get lodged in a pet's esophagus. In fact, in a recent study, 85% of pills given dry remained in cats' esophagi after five minutes.²

Suggest a healthy treat instead.

GREENIES® PILL POCKETS® Treats are tasty, healthy treats that hide the smell and taste of medicine so pets actually enjoy taking it.

- Designed with veterinarians
- Contain vitamins C & E
- Available in two sizes and two flavors for dogs
- Available in one size and two flavors for cats



"My 15-year-old cat has to take two pills a day and I had tried everything to trick her into taking her meds. Eventually, she would figure out what I was doing and not chew the pill. Then my vet gave me a sample of this product and it has literally changed my life and saved hers."

—Debra G.