## BRIARPOINTE VETERINARY CLINIC



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## ADMINISTERING EAR DROPS TO YOUR CAT

If the medication is refrigerated, you may warm the medication by placing the bottle in a bowl of warm water for a few minutes. Be sure to ask us if this is acceptable before warming any medication.

Hold the cat securely in your lap. It may be advisable to restrain the cat by wrapping it in a blanket or towel with only its head exposed. The first few times, it may be helpful to have someone else hold the wrapped cat while you apply the drops.



Make sure you have carefully read the label and understand the dosing instructions and the amount of liquid you are to instill into the ear.

Draw up the liquid into the dropper, if necessary. Hold the applicator or bottle between the thumb and forefinger of your dominant hand.

Use the last two fingers of the hand holding the dropper or bottle to hold the tip of the ear.

Place your remaining hand under the cat's jaw to support the head.

Apply a small amount of medication into the ear canal. Be sure to place the tip as far into the ear canal as possible, unless the condition is confined to the outer portion of the ear.

Gently massage the base of the ear in a circular motion. Be cautious and gentle. The cat may not allow you to do this.

Release the ear and let your cat shake its head. If the medication contains a wax solvent, debris will be dissolved so it can be shaken out.

Another method that works well is to grasp the scruff of the neck with one hand, using the thumb and forefinger of that hand to hold the ear open. You can then apply the medication using your other hand.

REMEMBER THAT THE EAR MAY BE VERY PAINFUL AND THAT THE CAT MAY RESPOND BY SCRATCHING OR BITING.

Edited by John S. Parker, DVM

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