Northern Illinois Cat Clinic, P.C.

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## **Subcutaneous Fluids Instructions**

## **Storage and Preparation:**

- Store open bags of fluids in refrigerator when not in use.
- Warm fluids in a warm water bath before use (do not allow connections to enter water). Temperature for use should be room slightly warmer than room temperature.
- Use fluids for TEN DAYS ONLY once bag has been opened.
  - 1. Use a new sterile needle for each use. If needle accidentally touches any surface before use, replace with a new needle.
  - 2. Hang fluids 1-2 feet above your kitty to maximize flow rate.
  - 3. Use one hand to gently lift skin on your kitty's back, between the shoulder blades. This creates a "tent" under the skin where the fluids will be given.
  - 4. Insert the needle into the skin in the "tent" you have made, beveled side up. Release the skin and hold needle in place.
  - 5. Roll the roller <u>UP</u> to start fluids. If dripping very slowly, check line for kinks, pinch flattened area or gently rotate needle under the skin.
  - 6. Administer prescribed amount of fluids (between each numbered line is 100mL).
  - 7. To stop fluids, roll the roller lock **DOWN**.
  - 8. Gently pinch skin around the needle while removing from skin.
  - 9. Recap venoset and return fluids to refrigerator until next use.

Your kitty may experience slight discomfort when inserting the needle(as you would when receiving a subcutaneous injection). Be prepared if your cat attempts to walk away, scratch or bite.

Store used needles in a glass jar. Return to clinic for proper disposal.

PLEASE CALL WITH ANY QUESTIONS OR PROBLEMS, OUR TECHNICIANS ARE HERE TO HELP YOU!!!