

Palliative Management Strategies

Disease	Medications / Nutrition / Supplements / Other	Notes			
Renal failure	<table border="0"> <tr> <td data-bbox="520 360 869 547"> Medications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Azodyl* • Potassium gluconate[†] • Famotidine[§] • Aluminum hydroxide • Epogen[#] </td> <td data-bbox="890 360 1239 515"> Nutrition & Supplements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chronic renal diet (eg, Prescription Diet k/d[‡]) • Vitamins • Fatty acids </td> <td data-bbox="1276 360 1409 419"> Other <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SC fluids </td> </tr> </table>	Medications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Azodyl* • Potassium gluconate[†] • Famotidine[§] • Aluminum hydroxide • Epogen[#] 	Nutrition & Supplements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chronic renal diet (eg, Prescription Diet k/d[‡]) • Vitamins • Fatty acids 	Other <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SC fluids 	Regularly check serum biochemical profiles to monitor renal function, acidosis, and anemia
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Feline triad disease Older cats with concurrent liver, pancreatic, and intestinal ID	<table border="0"> <tr> <td data-bbox="520 579 869 738"> Medications & Supplements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prednisolone • Metronidazole • Ursodiol • Oral potassium gluconate </td> <td data-bbox="890 616 1157 738"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pancreatic enzymes • Vitamin E • L-carnitine • Lactulose </td> <td data-bbox="1276 579 1472 675"> Other <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SC fluids • SC vitamin K1 </td> </tr> </table>	Medications & Supplements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prednisolone • Metronidazole • Ursodiol • Oral potassium gluconate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pancreatic enzymes • Vitamin E • L-carnitine • Lactulose 	Other <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SC fluids • SC vitamin K1 	Prescription Diet l/d [‡] , ursodiol, vitamin K1, and milk thistle may help animals with severe liver failure
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Diabetes Owners uncomfortable administering injections	Oral hypoglycemic	Expect clinical results in one third of diabetic patients without ketonuria			
Inappetence, anorexia, food avoidance	Pet owners can be taught to properly and safely hand-feed an ill pet.	Cats prefer food warmed to body temperature			
Lingual squamous cell carcinoma	Percutaneous gastrostomy tube (See Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastrostomy Tube Placement , <i>Clinician's Brief</i> , March 2009)	It is essential to educate the owner about how and what to feed the pet			
Nasal cancer	<table border="0"> <tr> <td data-bbox="520 1185 1115 1345"> Medications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSAIDs (eg, piroxicam, carprofen, meloxicam) • Opioids • Gabapentin • Butorphanol (evening sedation) </td> </tr> </table>	Medications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSAIDs (eg, piroxicam, carprofen, meloxicam) • Opioids • Gabapentin • Butorphanol (evening sedation) 			
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Osteosarcoma	<table border="0"> <tr> <td data-bbox="520 1377 758 1473"> Medications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSAIDs • Fentanyl patches </td> <td data-bbox="842 1377 1430 1505"> Other Walking casts (to prevent fractures) & ramps (to avoid stress of jumping) for dogs that have not undergone amputation </td> </tr> </table>	Medications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSAIDs • Fentanyl patches 	Other Walking casts (to prevent fractures) & ramps (to avoid stress of jumping) for dogs that have not undergone amputation	Use of piroxicam (0.3 mg/kg PO Q 24 H) for pain control may actually yield rare remission on a sporadic basis ¹	
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<p>Degenerative myelopathy/paresis/paralysis</p>	<p>Use home care items, such as slings, chest and rump lifts, canvas suspension hammocks, and wheel carts. Foot covers may help provide traction and prevent abnormal wearing and ulcers of the metatarsals, pads, and metacarpals.</p>	
<p>Brain tumor</p>	<p>Patients that have seizures may have fewer emergency visits if the clients are instructed to administer diazepam in the nasal passages or rectum.</p>	
<p>Decubital ulcer</p>	<p>Pressure wounds can be avoided by using soft pads, water beds, and egg-crate mattresses with washable covers. Frequent and complete cleaning of the pet's coat and skin is important.</p>	<p>If the pet spends time outdoors, extreme caution must be taken to prevent fly strike and maggots</p>
<p>Transitional cell carcinoma</p>	<p>Use diapers when pet is in the house or keep pet's daybed close to the "doggie" door. This helps family endure problems of stranguria and pollakiuria.</p>	
<p>Vomiting</p>	<p>Medications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maropitant** or ondansetron†† as injections or oral therapy • For refractory vomiting, metoclopramide or prochlorperazine 	
<p>Chronic & cancer pain</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For refractory pain, use NSAIDs to start • May add triple therapy formulas (eg, gabapentin, amantadine, tramadol) • Injectable buprenorphine for cats (0.3 mL PO Q 8–12 H) • Injectable nalbuphine PO also offers good pain control w/o typical sedation effects—Dogs: 0.5–1 mg/kg SC Q 3–4 H; Cats: 0.2–0.5 mg/kg SC Q 3–5 H or 1 part nalbuphine to 9 parts sterile water, 0.1 mL PO Q 3–5 H 	<p>Nalbuphine PO is inexpensive and not under controlled-substance regulations. It may be of great value when added to NSAIDs for pain control.</p>

* vetoquinolusa.com

† Tumil-K, virbacvet.com

§ Pepcid, pepcid.com

Amgen, amgen.com; may improve anemia unless antibody formation thwarts its action

‡ hillspet.com

** Cerenia, pfizerah.com

†† Zofran, gsk.com

¹ Understanding and recognizing cancer pain in dogs and cats, treating cancer pain in dogs and cats. De Lorimier LP, Fan TM. *Vet Med* 5:352-377, 2005.

SC = subcutaneous fluids; ID = inflammatory disease; NSAID = nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drug;

SAMe = S-adenosylmethionine

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