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### **TIPS ON GIVING YOUR PET ORAL MEDICATION:**

#### **CATS:**

- When giving a medication in pill form – First wrap it in Deli Meat, Tuna Fish or any Treat that your Cat will enjoy – IF that does NOT work, try the options below:
- Capsules are easy to break open and sprinkle over Wet Food or Tuna fish
- For Tablets: Try hiding it in Wet Food. Be Sure to ask your Veterinarian before crushing up any medication as some can become TOXIC if crushed
- IF the above options do NOT work, you will have to force your cat to take the medication: Place the pill on the inside of the back corner of the mouth – as far back as you can get it and then hold your cat's mouth shut while they swallow. It will usually slide down easier if dipped in a small amount of butter
- IF the medication is in Liquid form – you can also just sprinkle it on their food which your cat will eat without noticing
- IF you Free Feed your cat – you will need to give the liquid directly – Draw the medication up with a syringe and place the tip of the opening to the corner of your cat's mouth. You can force the jaw to open by placing your fingers on each side of the jaw and pinching behind the canines. Once you have accomplished this – squirt the medication into the mouth – not too quickly as to gag the cat - but quick enough so your pet doesn't have time to pull away – This may take a few tries because your cat will most likely pull away or struggle – You can also hold the scruff – tilt the head back and squirt the liquid in the side of the mouth

#### **DOGS:**

- When giving a pill – simply wrap it in any kind of “HUMAN” food or dog treat and follow the “treat” with a second larger treat to encourage them to gobble up the first
- IF for any reason this doesn't work you can follow the above mentioned steps for CATS
- When giving a liquid - let your dog smell it first and then open the mouth and squirt it in – Remember to hold the mouth closed until you see a good swallow – about 3/5 seconds – If you are having trouble: try putting the syringe in the side of the jaw as you would with a cat in the above mentioned step or try mixing it with wet food or a little chicken broth works well

WE can flavor the medication at The Scottsdale Veterinary Clinic with our flavoring system to make it more palatable – WE are able to mix both pills and liquid into a variety of flavored liquids your pet will LOVE – Ask us about FLAVOR RX MANDARIN ORANGE, CHOPPED LIVER, GRILLED TUNA, CRISPY BACON & MOM'S BANANA BREAD just to name a few flavors. Foods such as marshmallows, liverwurst and other household foods work great for giving medication also. Just remember: NO CHOCOLATE – Feel free to give us a call if your are unsure as to what you can give your pet, we are here to help and assist.