# Feline Asthma and Canine Bronchitis

## Treatment Path & Dosing Guidelines

### 1. Treat Exacerbation!

Ensure animal can breathe
- Immediate dilation of airways to provide respiratory relief
- Provide injectable steroid and either inhaled or injectable bronchodilator
- Injections administered in clinic/hospital
- Inhaled bronchodilator may be administered in clinic or at home by owner

### 2. Gain Airway Control

Clear the airways
- Reduce airway inflammation and regain control of airways
- Provide short term course of systemic steroids
- 10-day therapy course

### 3. Transition to Inhalers

Introduce Inhaled Therapy
- Taper systemic steroids while introducing inhaled steroids
- Overlap therapy for 2 weeks
- Inhaled steroids effectively target the airways for disease control without the side effects of systemic steroids

### 4. Daily Management

Maintain disease control
- Maintenance therapy to keep inflammation controlled and prevent exacerbations
- Daily therapy for symptom management
- Cat owners can administer inhaled bronchodilator during flare ups from exposure to triggers

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### Medications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATS &amp; DOGS</th>
<th>Dexamethasone (0.1–0.5 mg/kg IM or IV)</th>
<th>Terbutaline (0.01 mg/kg IM or SC)</th>
<th>Fluticasone / Prednisolone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DOGS</td>
<td>Fluticasone (110 µg)</td>
<td>Fluticasone + salmeterol (115 µg / 21 µg)</td>
<td>Fluticasone + salmeterol (220 µg / 21 µg)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CATS &amp; DOGS</td>
<td>Prednisolone (1.0–2.0 mg/kg every 24 hours)</td>
<td>Prednisone (0.5–1.0 mg/kg every 24 hours)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Dosing Guideline**

- **Prednisolone**: 1.0–2.0 mg/kg every 24 hours
- **Prednisone**: 0.5–1.0 mg/kg every 24 hours

**Notes**
- Owners unable to regain control at home should bring animal to veterinary care
- Review environmental modifications
- Ensure pet owners understand systemic steroids are only temporary
- Owners already using inhalers who treated exacerbation with albuterol can continue with inhaled steroid

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**Notes**
- Albuterol is a rescue medication and should not be used as mono therapy
- Canines not shown to bronchoconstrict. Little evidence albuterol is effective for canine bronchitis

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**Notes**
- Inhaled steroids can take 2-weeks to take effect

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**Notes**
- Fluticasone‡ 220 µg every 12 hours
- Cats with more serious disease may require 220 µg every 12 hours