Cats

Welfare friendly examination procedure without the owner

Remember that a trip to the veterinary practice constitutes a significant routine change for the cats. Whenever a cat is away from home, they will often seek out a hiding place, so we need to facilitate this behavior. The carrier should act as a safe place for the cats and, whenever a cat needs to visit the veterinary practice a towel can be used to cover the carrier.

The right kind of carrier is very important: please look for a carrier that can be easily opened from the top, without noise.

BEFORE THE CONSULTATION

1. Habituate your cat to the carrier before travel - the carrier should be visible and accessible at home, in a safe and quiet area. Treats and toys should be available inside. Remove the door to permit free full access without constraint during the habituation.

2. Using a pheromone spray (fraction F3) in the cat’s carrier about 15 minutes before travel.

3. Cover the carrier so visual stimuli are reduced.

4. Bring a soft towel so the veterinarian can use it if needed during the visit.

ARRIVAL AT THE CLINIC

1. If a cats’ waiting room is not available, find a silent and quiet area for waiting. Upper platforms or places are considered safer and more comfortable by the cat.

2. Keep the carrier covered and consider keeping the carrier on an elevated surface such as on a chair, specific cat carrier shelving or on your lap.

DURING THE CONSULTATION

1. Try and remain relaxed and calm yourself before leaving your cat in the consultation room.

2. Leave the carrier covered with the towel for the veterinarian.

AFTER THE CONSULTATION

Be aware that the consultation and the travel to and from the clinic may have been stressful experiences for your cat. When you arrive at the home, please keep the environment calm and safe, especially in case others animals live in the same household. Clean the carrier with adapted products and stock it in place where it could be easily available.