

# ADMINISTERING SUBCUTANEOUS FLUIDS:

\*\*Administering supplemental fluids can benefit pets with a variety of medical conditions. Most commonly it is recommended for pets with kidney disease.

\*\*The equipment for at home fluid therapy usually consist of a bag of fluids, a fluid drip set, and a needle.

## Setting up the equipment:

- \*remove the fluid bag and drip set from packaging
- \*close the line lock in the middle of the fluid tubing by moving the roller so that it squeezes shut
- \*remove the cap at the top end of the fluid bag, do not allow it to touch anything
- \*pull the protective covering from the exit port on the bottom of the fluid bag
- \*push the pointed end into the open hole of the fluid bag
- \*squeeze and release the bulb at the top of the drip set until it is halfway filled with fluid
- \*remove the cap from the lower end of the fluid set
- \*open the roller on the tubing and suspend bag so fluid flows freely
- \*fill the fluid line with fluid from the bag, be sure all air bubbles are out of tubing
- \*when the fluid line is full, close the lock by rolling the roller downward
- \*replace the cap or needle on the lower end of the fluid set
- \*insert the needle just under the skin in one of the several locations that have loose skin
  - at the level of the shoulder blades, just to the right or left of midline
  - at the level of the back legs, just to the right and left of the midline

## Administering fluids:

- \*hang the fluid bag about 3 feet above your dogs head
- \*the end of the fluid set should reach your pet without much tension
- \*pick up a loose roll of skin in one of the above locations
- \*advance the needle forward at the base of the roll of skin
- \*this should be a firm and steady motion
- \*release the roll of skin while leaving the needle under the skin
- \*begin the flow of fluids by using the roller

## Complete the following steps after you have given \_\_\_\_\_ ml of fluids:

- \*stop the fluid flow by pushing the roller down firmly
- \*remove the needle from the skin and replace cap
- \*a new needle will need to be used EVERY time you administer fluids, this will prevent bacteria from migrating up into the fluid bag

## TIPS:

- \*store fluids at room temperature
- \*as fluids are running a lump will appear under the skin, this is normal and will absorb over the next couple of hours

SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW FOR A VIDEO LINK!

