Your Pet Does Not Need an Antibiotic Today!

Patient Name: ____________________________  Date: ____________________________

Good news! Based on a complete examination and the history you provided, your pet does not need treatment with an antibiotic. Here are some other recommendations to help your pet feel better.

FINDINGS FROM TODAY’S VISIT:

☐ Diarrhea (lasts about 5–7 days)
☐ Cough (lasts about 7–10 days)
☐ Cat urinary tract inflammation/cystitis (discomfort lasts about 3–5 days)
☐ Vomiting
☐ Nose discharge, with or without sneezing
☐ Other: _____________________________

Antibiotics will not help these conditions as they are not usually caused by bacteria. Sometimes bacteria do cause diarrhea, but most often it resolves on its own. Antibiotics should be used only when needed, because unneeded antibiotics can cause harmful side effects and promote antibiotic resistance.

HELP YOUR PET BY DOING THE FOLLOWING:

☐ Feed a bland diet. Recommended diet(s):
____________________________________
☐ Ensure your pet drinks enough. Offer a few water sources, and wet the food.
☐ Warm up food to enhance its smell.
☐ To prevent sharing a viral infection, keep your pet away from other animals for ______ days.
☐ Limit exercise. Your pet needs to rest.
☐ Use a humidifier or place your pet in the bathroom (not the shower) and run hot water in the shower.
☐ Other: _____________________________

NON-ANTIBIOTIC MEDICATIONS:

☐ Prescribed today: __________________________________________________________________
☐ Recommended, if needed: ___________________________________________________________

FOLLOW-UP:

☐ Please call or visit the clinic if your pet is not better in ______ days, if your pet’s condition gets worse, or if you have other concerns.
☐ Recheck exam: ________________________  ☐ Clinic phone: __________________________
☐ Other: __________________________________________________________________________

Signed: ________________________________________________

MDH Antimicrobial Use and Resistance Basics (www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/antibioticresistance/basics)
University of Minnesota Antimicrobial Resistance and Stewardship Initiative (https://arsi.umn.edu)
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