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Discharge Instructions

Saturday, August 28, 2010

Glenda Black

Dear Glenda Black:

This letter is in regard to Sparky and his treatment of seizures. As we discussed, you are electing to take Sparky home for at home monitoring and oral phenobarbital loading. We are also sending him home with diazepam in syringes to give rectally if he has a seizure while on the phenobarbital.

The loading instructions for the phenobarbital as follows:

Starting today 08/28/10 - Each dose is 8 hours apart

Dose 1 am dose: Give two 16.2mg tablets by mouth

Dose 2 afternoon dose: Give two 16.2mg tablets by mouth

Dose 3 evening dose: Give two 16.2 mg tablets by mouth

Starting Sunday morning 08/29/10 - This can begin 8 hours after the final loading dose

Resume previously prescribe dose. Give 1 tablet by mouth every 12 hours

If at any time at home Sparky begins to seizure, administer one syringe of Diazepam (Valium) rectally. This can be done using the red rubber catheter provided and flushing with 6.0ml of tap water. If the seizures do not resolve with the valium administration, please bring Sparky back to DCVR, your regular veterinarian or your closest emergency clinic for evaluation and more aggressive treatment. The Diazepam in the syringes will lose their efficacy and should be disposed of within one week.

The most common side affect of these medications are sedation. This is likely to happen as he will be on a large dose for the next 24 hours. To avoid further sedation please refrain from giving any of the oral valium that was previously prescribe.

I urge that you follow-up with your regular veterinarian within the next week to have Sparky evaluated and have his phenobarbital adjusted, if needed. I also recommend calling DCVR on Monday morning to speak with our receptionist staff to set up an appointment with our neurology service and Dr. Neravanda if you are interested in further diagnostics and possible advance imaging (CAT scan or MRI) to determine the underlying cause of Sparky seizures.

Thank you for bringing Sparky to Dogs and Cats Veterinary Referral. We are available 24 hours a day so please do not hesitate to call with any questions.

Christopher Eaton, DVM