

ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURES FOR FRIGHTENED FELINES

- ◆ Consider wrapping your cat in a large bath towel. The towel can also help protect you from being bitten or scratched. “Cats’ teeth are sharper than dogs’ teeth and their incisors can easily puncture your skin,” Dr. Yin says. “The purpose of towel wrapping is to make cats feel secure and relaxed and prevent them from struggling.”
- ◆ If your cat is afraid of syringes, create a positive association by placing his favorite treats, such as canned tuna, on the syringe tip for him to lick off.
- ◆ Try first loading the syringe with tuna juice for your cat to swallow. Hold his head when presenting the tuna-laden syringe to get him to accept being slightly restrained. Follow up immediately with the medicine-filled syringe. Finish by giving a small treat as a reward, opening the bathroom door and allowing your cat to exit on his own.
- ◆ Try Feline Greenies Pill Pockets. The treats have a built-in pouch for concealing a tablet, capsule or liquid medication.
- ◆ Remember that you have a vital ally in the veterinarian, so don’t hesitate to ask for additional tips to ensure that your cat receives all the medicine he needs to return to good health.