

TABLE 12B

Common Causes of Acute and Chronic Hyponatremia in Dogs and Cats

Acute	Chronic*
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consumption of large amounts of fresh water leading to acute water intoxication• Infusion of significant volumes of non replacement fluids (e.g., administering a 5% dextrose in water solution to a dehydrated patient)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Congestive heart failure• Hypoadrenocorticism• Liver dysfunction• Nephrotic syndrome• Renal and gastrointestinal sodium loss <p>*Consider that patients with vague clinical signs for longer than 24–48 hours likely have chronic hyponatremia.</p>

The 2024 Fluid Therapy Guidelines for Dogs and Cats are available at aaha.org/fluid-therapy.

These guidelines were prepared by a Task Force of experts convened by the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) and were subjected to a formal peer-review process. This document is intended as a guideline only, not an AAHA standard of care. These guidelines and recommendations should not be construed as dictating an exclusive protocol, course of treatment, or procedure. Variations in practice may be warranted based on the needs of the individual patient, resources, and limitations unique to each individual practice setting. ©2024 AAHA.

