

TABLE 16**Intravenous Fluid Delivery Modes**

Method of Delivery	Considerations
Fluid pump	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Limits of very high and, possibly, very low rates of administration• Maximum administration rate can limit ability to rapidly deliver a bolus with large fluid volumes
Syringe pump	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Limited to small volumes• Attach the extension set close to the IV catheter to ensure patient receives the infusion in a timely manner
Gravity drip set	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need to calculate drip rate: Fluid rate (mL/h) × Drip factor (gtt/mL)/3600 = gtt/s• Patient movement or changes to bag placement can affect drip rate• Close monitoring is essential because there are no alarms
Buretrol	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Used in conjunction with a fluid pump• Prevents delivery of large fluid volume to small patients• Allows for smaller volumes of additives, leading to less waste in smaller patients or in cases of frequent changes to fluid plans
Syringe	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hand administration of small volumes• Do not leave attached to a patient while unattended
Pressure bag	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ideal when volume to be infused over given time exceeds the capabilities of a fluid pump and gravity set

gtt, drop; s, second

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

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