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**TABLE 19****Evaluation and Monitoring Parameters That May Be Used for Patients Receiving Fluid Therapy<sup>a</sup>**

- Pulse rate and quality\*
- Capillary refill time
- Mucous membrane color
- Respiratory rate and effort
- Lung sounds
- Skin turgor
- Body weight
- Urine output
- Mental status
- Extremity temperature
- Packed cell volume/total solids
- Total protein
- Serum lactate
- Urine specific gravity
- Blood urea nitrogen
- Creatinine
- Electrolytes
- Blood pressure
- Venous or arterial blood gasses
- O<sub>2</sub> saturation

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<sup>a</sup> Reprinted from Davis H, Jensen T, Johnson A, et al. 2013 AAHA/AAFP fluid therapy guidelines for dogs and cats. *J Am Anim Hosp Assoc.* 2013;49(3):149-59.

\* Including cardiac auscultation to identify new murmurs

**The 2024 Fluid Therapy Guidelines for Dogs and Cats are available at [aaha.org/fluid-therapy](https://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.

