

**TABLE 7****Endpoints to Monitor for Hypovolemia and Dehydration**

Fluid Status	Hypovolemia	Dehydration
<b>Initial parameters</b>	(See Table 2)	(See Table 3)
<b>Initial treatment strategy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 5-10 mL/kg (cat), 15-20 mL/kg (dog) of a buffered isotonic fluid over 15 minutes</li><li>• Assess perfusion parameters at the end of each bolus.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Calculate replacement volume and deliver over 12–24 hours.</li><li>• Assess patient parameters throughout the fluid delivery period with the goal of correcting the full dehydration deficit within 12–24 hours.</li></ul>
<b>End points</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improvement in heart rate, CRT, blood pressure, and mentation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improved skin turgor, mucous membranes, and urine specific gravity and increased body weight and urine output</li></ul>
<b>End point treatment strategy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• If vitals have returned to normal, then assess if dehydration needs to be addressed and continue with a rehydration fluid plan.</li><li>• If vitals have improved but not normalized, repeat the same or lower-volume bolus and reassess.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• If end points have returned to normal, then assess if oral ingestion is possible. If not, continue with maintenance fluid plan.</li><li>• If dehydration has not completely resolved, recalculate fluid requirements and deliver over an additional 12–24 hours.</li></ul>

CRT, capillary refill time

**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.

