

TABLE 9**Fluid Therapy Dosing According to Stage of Fluid Requirements**

Stage	Formula	Rate of Administration	Comments
Resuscitation	Cat: 5–10 mL/kg Dog: 15–20 mL/kg	15 min	Assess perfusion parameters after bolus. May repeat bolus as needed.
Rehydration	Total fluid deficit (mL) = Body weight (kg) × % Dehydration (as a decimal)	Over 12–24 hr	Ongoing losses should be assessed through inputs and outputs and incorporated into the fluid plan.
Maintenance	Dog: a. 60 mL/kg/day b. $132 \times \text{BW (kg)}^{0.75}$ c. $30 \times \text{BW (kg)} + 70 = \text{mL/kg/day}$ Cat: a. 40 mL/kg/day b. $80 \times \text{BW (kg)}^{0.75}$ c. $30 \times \text{BW (kg)} + 70 = \text{mL/kg/day}$ Pediatric: Dog: 3 × adult dose Cat: 2.5 × adult dose	Over 24 hr	Also incorporate enteral water, liquid diets, and IV medications into the total volume of the fluid plan.

BW, body weight

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.

