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! ALERT - Gastrointestinal Virus in Cats / Can become serious without treatment!

Just a heads up for the cat owners. We have seen many cats this past week with vomiting, diarrhea, and/or not eating. Some cats also have low-grade fevers. We are attributing these symptoms to a **gastrointestinal (GI) virus**.

This virus, known as "the flu" in people, affects the gastrointestinal tract and causes us to become nauseous and have vomiting and/or diarrhea. For people, these viruses are usually not serious and resolve on their own. However, cats can become seriously ill if they become dehydrated from vomiting and diarrhea, or if they don't eat for more than a day.

Therefore, these cats may require supportive care including fluids, anti-nausea medications, pain medications, and/or appetite stimulants.

Remember, viruses are airborne, and most of the cats we have seen with this virus are indooronly and have not been out of the house recently. Airborne particles come in naturally through open doors and windows, and on our clothing as we are out and about with our daily routines.

You can help prevent possible problems by washing your hands after coming home and petting your cats, and by keeping a close eye on your kitty's behavior and appetite in order to catch symptoms early. The sooner a sick kitty is treated, the quicker they bounce back.

If you have and questions or concerns, please call us at 248-540-3390.

