

Dr. George Tietbaum is a rural practitioner in Sagebrush County, NM. As the only vet in the county, Dr. Tietbaum is a mixed animal vet meaning he sees a wide range of species. He operates a clinic and a mobile unit. He is a very busy man, and has decided to hire someone to help him in his practice. Congratulations, you got the job!

One Monday morning as you are cleaning kennels Doc calls you to the treatment room to help with a patient.

A lady has brought her 3 year old tom cat in to the clinic. She tells Doc the cat had run away from home and been gone for two days. Since coming home he has been acting sick. He is not eating, and seems tired. This morning she noticed a lump under his jaw. She is very worried because she is sure he has cancer. The doctor examines the cat and tells the lady not to worry about cancer. Her tom cat has an abscess which can be treated. The lady is much relieved and leaves the cat at the clinic for treatment.

Dr. Tietbaum has you weigh the cat. The cat weighs 12 pounds.

1. How much does the cat weigh in kg?
 - A. 5.5 kg
 - B. 9.8 kg
 - C. 14.2 kg
 - D. 26.8 kg

$$12 \text{ lb} \times \frac{1 \text{ kg}}{2.2 \text{ lb}} = 5.5 \text{ kg}$$

Doc asks you to take the cat's temperature. It is 40 degrees Celsius.

2. What is the temperature in degrees Fahrenheit?
 - A. 98
 - B. 100
 - C. 104
 - D. 108

$$F = (C \times 1.8) + 32 \text{ OR } F = (C \times 9/5) + 32$$
$$F = (40 \times 1.8) + 32 = 104 \text{ OR } F = (40 \times 9/5) + 32 = 104$$

The cat will have to be sedated. Dr. Tietbaum will give an injection of a new sedative called Katsed. Katsed is dosed at 25 mg / kg. The label states that the concentration is 100 mg / ml.

3. How many mg of drug does this cat require?
 - A. 4.5 mg
 - B. 25 mg
 - C. 245.5 mg
 - D. 137.5 mg

$$5.5 \text{ kg} \times \frac{25 \text{ mg}}{1 \text{ kg}} = 137.5 \text{ mg}$$

4. How many ml will be injected?
- A. 0.6 ml
 - B. 1.4 ml
 - C. 2.3 ml
 - D. 5.2 ml

$$137.5 \text{ mg} \times \frac{1 \text{ ml}}{100 \text{ mg}} = 1.375 \text{ ml} = 1.4 \text{ ml in a syringe.}$$

Once the cat is anesthetized, Dr. Teitbaum has you clip the hair away from the abscess and prep the area for surgery. He lances the abscess and collects the exudate (pus) in a basin. He asks you to measure it. The basin was apparently used for baking in a former life and the marks are in teaspoons and tablespoon. The marks on the side of the basin indicate 1 Tablespoon of exudate. Doc wants the measurement in ounces or ml.

5. How much exudate is this in ml?
- A. 0.5 ml
 - B. 5 ml
 - C. 10 ml
 - D. 15 ml

$$1 \text{ Tbsp} = 15 \text{ ml (from the conversion table)}$$

6. How many ounces?
- A. 0.5 oz
 - B. 5 oz
 - C. 10 oz
 - D. 15 oz

$$1 \text{ oz} = 30 \text{ ml so } 15 \text{ ml} = \frac{1}{2} \text{ oz}$$

Doctor Tietbaum asks you to mix up a diluted antiseptic solution to flush the abscess with. He wants a 10% antiseptic solution.

7. What will your ratio of water and antiseptic be to achieve a 10% solution?
- A. 100 ml sterile water and 10 mg antiseptic powder
 - B. 10 ml sterile water and 10 mg antiseptic powder
 - C. 1 ml sterile water and 100 mg antiseptic powder
 - D. 10 ml sterile water and 100 mg antiseptic powder.

$$\% \text{ Solution} = (\text{dry mass in grams} / \text{volume in ml}) \times 100$$

$$100 \text{ mg} = 0.1 \text{ grams SO } (0.1/1 \text{ ml}) \times 100 = 10\%$$

After cleaning the cat up you put him in a cage in the back to wake up from anesthesia. While you wait you begin to get the antibiotic ready. Dr. Teitbaum likes a product called Cloromox that is dosed at 20.5 mg/kg PO bid and is supplied in a 75 mg/ml suspension.

8. How much is each dose for this cat?
- A. 20.5 mg
 - B. 50.25 mg
 - C. 112.75 mg
 - D. 102.5 mg

$$5.5 \text{ kg} \times \frac{20.5 \text{ mg}}{1 \text{ kg}} = 112.75 \text{ mg}$$

9. Which prescription label is most correct and easiest for client understanding?
- A. Give 1.5 ml two times daily for 5 days.
 - B. Give 1.5 ml by mouth every 12 hours for 5 days.
 - C. Give 1.5 ml PO BID.
 - D. Give 1.5 ml in the morning and in the night 1.5 ml for five days in the mouth

Simple, precise wording is best. Option A. does not tell how to give the medicine and the client may give the medicine at 7 in the morning then again at 2 in the afternoon. Option C. gives correct instruction, but the client may not know what PO or BID means. Option D. is so wordy it is confusing.

Now you need to get the bill ready. The office visit and exam charge is \$47.50. The surgery charge is \$50.00. The anesthesia charge is \$15.50. The Cloromox will cost \$12.75. Tax is 7.5%, but tax is not charged on prescription drugs.

10. What is the total bill?
- A. 125.75
 - B. 134.23
 - C. 135.18
 - D. 126.38

$$[(\$47.50 + \$50.00 + \$15.50) \times 0.075] + (\$47.50 + \$50.00 + \$15.50) = 121.48$$

then add the \$12.75 for the Cloromox = \$134.23

The cat will go home the next morning fully recovered from his surgery and well on his way to healing the abscess site. You on the other hand get to go back to cleaning kennels until the next case demands your help.