



Crow River
Animal Hospital
& Dental Clinic

Friday Fun Facts – Number 28:2010

Melissa Shelton DVM – Cowboy's Story – Cats, Oils, and Hope Renewed

Disclaimer: All of the information provided here is intended for educational purposes. The information is not intended to diagnose, treat, or prescribe for any illness. Please seek the advice of a qualified health care professional in your area of concern if you or your pets have a health challenge.

Cowboy is a cat. He was found as a stray, who wandered onto a farm for a meal in July of 2007. He had ear mites and hookworms. He was tested for feline leukemia, neutered, and vaccinated. This lucky cat had found his way into one of the best homes in town. He lived in a nice barn, with warm beds, and plentiful food. He still ventured outdoors, and liked to live the “dangerous life”. In January of 2009, he came back to the barn with what appeared to be a few cat fight wounds. When we examined him, we noted that his bladder was very large for a normal cat and that his tail drooped, and did not move normally. After his examination, and a little squeezing of his bladder, Cowboy ran off into one of the horse stalls and tried to urinate. Although after all of his attempts, his bladder was still quite large.

We started to suspect some neurologic damage to his tail and bladder to account for his “symptoms”. Then, worse news came back with his lab work. Cowboy was FIV positive. FIV is the “Feline Immunodeficiency Virus”. Much like human AIDS, it predisposes a cat to a poor immune function and complications from frequent illness. Additional tests were submitted – and thankfully they showed that Cowboy did not have the virus within his bone marrow. Cowboy seemed to be “hanging in there” – so he was placed on supplements to help support his immune system and general health. Although his bladder always seemed a little large, and his tail didn't work like a regular cat – he did just fine, and was a happy, purring cat. One of the nicest cats you would ever want to meet.



Cowboy – hanging out at an appointment

All seemed fine with Cowboy. Continued testing showed that although he was FIV positive, the virus still had not manifested in the bone marrow. He remained a happy cat, living in the barn; with good food, pure water, warm beds, and love. Then in January of 2010 – Cowboy was seen straining in one of the horse stalls. He tried and tried to urinate – to no avail. He was “blocked”. He was hospitalized, with a urinary catheter to drain the urine from his bladder. He had blood work, a urinalysis, x-rays, and an IV catheter and fluids; anything to make him feel better. And he did feel better. He went home with even better supplements and diet changes. He continued his happy life.

Then in February of 2010 – one month later – he was found straining to urinate in the barn again. Again, he was hospitalized; his bladder was drained, medications were given – everything a cat could ever need or want was provided. He went home again, after more than a week in the hospital. Back to his happy life.

But Cowboy was not truly happy. He was never able to fully empty his bladder. Recheck after recheck, we would find that he was not able to urinate fully. He would take over 5 minutes, just to pee out a tablespoon of urine. His bladder had become the size of a cantaloupe. This was not a “happy” situation for Cowboy. As his bladder became larger and larger – his attitude became different. Cowboy, who was always in high spirits, who would purr the instant you looked at him or touched him...now growled when approached. For this amazing cat to have changed his attitude toward people, we knew he had to be miserable.

Cowboy’s owner just could not give up on him. We tried to find ANY kind of an answer. I researched cases, consulted with medical specialists, contemplated permanent urinary catheterization, and even spoke with a board certified surgeon to consider if there was any surgery that would allow Cowboy to urinate. But, there were no traditional options for him. We considered trying acupuncture, electro-stimulation, herbal remedies, and additional medications. Unfortunately, nothing in the literature had been shown to have consistent or long term results. Also, the majority of the treatments would require Cowboy to come to the hospital 3-4 times a week or more. It just seemed unrealistic for the results that were to be had.

Essential oils became an option that no one had tried for a case like his. They were also a treatment that could be performed often, and at home by the owner. I knew that Cowboy had damage to his spinal nerves in his back, and that people had been helped with their spinal nerve pain and dysfunction with medical grade essential oils. But, could a cat tolerate the treatment necessary to reverse nerve damage? Especially with the high phenol oils indicated to help humans? With his only other option being euthanasia, we decided to give them a try.

We decided to try Kitty Raindrop Therapy on him. If you look back in past Friday Fun Facts available on our website www.CrowRiverAnimalHospital.com – you will find *Raindrop for Cats*. This episode describes the entire method and technique of the Kitty Raindrop Technique (KRDT). For Cowboy, I also added Helichrysum oil into his Kitty Raindrop mixture – as it is well known for its nerve healing and regenerative properties. Starting in March 2010, we kept him in the hospital for several days, and administered a Kitty Raindrop treatment to him every day. He did very well, and actually seemed quite happy and really loved getting his treatments. He was urinating enough to keep himself comfortable, and we sent him home.

We had decided that we would give the KRDT's everyday for 1-2 weeks, then gradually start to taper down the frequency of the administration. Cowboy had blood work in January – and everything was normal. I was very worried that we would cause liver damage in Cowboy, especially as he could not urinate fully. Would he retain additional levels of essential oils due to his poor urination? Would we ruin his liver using oils that were high in phenol components – a strict “no-no” for cats? We decided to recheck blood work in 1 month from the start of the treatments, but certainly sooner if he had any problems.

Species	Breed	Sex	Pet Age	Reported
Feline	Domestic Short Hair	CM		01/18/2010 10:19 AM
Test Requested	Results	Reference Range	Units	
SUPERCHEM				
Total Protein	6.9	5.2–8.8	g/dL	
Albumin	3.8	2.5–3.9	g/DL	
Globulin	3.1	2.3–5.3	g/dL	
Albumin/Globulin Ratio	1.2	0.35–1.5	RATIO	
AST (SGOT)	23	10–100	U/L	
ALT (SGPT)	36	10–100	U/L	
Alkaline Phosphatase	26	6–102	U/L	
GGTP	<5	1–10	U/L	
Total Bilirubin	0.1	0.1–0.4	mg/dL	
Urea Nitrogen	36	14–36	mg/dL	
Creatinine	1.3	0.6–2.4	mg/dL	
BUN/Creatinine Ratio	28	4–33	RATIO	
Phosphorus	4.4	2.4–8.2	mg/dL	
Glucose	82	64–170	mg/dL	
Calcium	9.3	8.2–10.8	mg/dL	
Magnesium	2.0	1.5–2.5	mEq/L	
Sodium	152	145–158	mEq/L	
Potassium	4.2	3.4–5.6	mEq/L	
Na/K Ratio	36			
Chloride	120	104–128	mEq/L	
Cholesterol	171	75–220	mg/dL	
Triglycerides	131	25–160	mg/dL	
Amylase	1092	100–1200	U/L	
Lipase	100	0–205	U/L	
CPK	100	56–529	U/L	

January Chemistry Results

Receiving no essential oils.

One month went by very quickly. We were happy that Cowboy had not re-blocked, and seemed happy. He was eating well, urinating enough, purring like his normal self, and he most certainly was not DEAD! When Cowboy presented for his recheck blood panel in April of 2010 – the owner reported that he was doing well. Not emptying his bladder completely, but his spirits and attitude were good, and most importantly - he had not re-blocked. When I asked the owner how often he was now receiving his Raindrops at this time, she told me that it was still EVERY DAY. For over one month, he was getting a Kitty Raindrop Therapy, every single day!!

To say the least, I was a little nervous waiting for the blood work results. Although I had intended for him to start getting his Raindrop Techniques less often, it was apparently fate that he received them daily. At the recheck appointment I told the owner, “How about we try doing the KRDT's every other day?” We agreed, and changed his schedule.

Then, his blood work came back. It was absolutely PERFECT. In fact, it looked slightly better than his blood panel prior to the KRDT's! Wow, was I relieved. But, my relief was short-lived. Within 3 weeks of changing to every other day KRDT's – Cowboy re-blocked. I was certain we had to euthanize him. He just couldn't go on this way.

Species	Breed	Sex	Pet Age	Reported
Feline	DS	CM		04/23/2010 10:29 AM
Test Requested	Results	Reference Range	Units	
SUPERCHEM				
Total Protein	6.8	5.2-8.8	g/dL	
Albumin	3.8	2.5-3.9	g/dL	
Globulin	3.0	2.3-5.3	g/dL	
Albumin/Globulin Ratio	1.3	0.35-1.5	RATIO	
AST (SGOT)	22	10-100	U/L	
ALT (SGPT)	34	10-100	U/L	
Alkaline Phosphatase	23	6-102	U/L	
GGTP	<5	1-10	U/L	
Total Bilirubin	0.1	0.1-0.4	mg/dL	
Urea Nitrogen	32	14-36	mg/dL	
Creatinine	1.5	0.6-2.4	mg/dL	
BUN/Creatinine Ratio	21	4-33	RATIO	
Phosphorus	4.4	2.4-8.2	mg/dL	
Glucose	85	64-170	mg/dL	
Calcium	9.7	8.2-10.8	mg/dL	
Magnesium	2.0	1.5-2.5	mEq/L	
Sodium	156	145-158	mEq/L	
Potassium	4.3	3.4-5.6	mEq/L	
Na/K Ratio	36			
Chloride	119	104-128	mEq/L	
Cholesterol	189	75-220	mg/dL	
Triglycerides	74	25-160	mg/dL	
Amylase	1002	100-1200	U/L	
Lipase	90	0-205	U/L	
CPK	80	56-529	U/L	

April Chemistry Results

After receiving essential oils for over one month.

Thankfully, his owner is a stubborn and caring woman. She wouldn't hear of euthanasia yet. So, we drained his bladder one more time, and started giving him his KRDT's every day again. When we made up the next batch of Kitty Raindrop Mixture – we added Helichrysum and also Copaiba to the mixture. Then, from May 2010, with Cowboy getting a KRDT once a day, he did not re-obstruct. He continued to be able to urinate enough to maintain comfort and health. In June, while rechecking him and photographing him for his début at the Young Living International Grand Convention, we saw his tail move! His tail was not as limp and droopy as it once was. It was actually starting to get some movement!

Mid July 2010, I got a call from Cowboy's owner. She was so excited, she had seen Cowboy urinate in the horse aisle – and he actually created a stream of urine, AND urinated quite a large amount!!! Also, more than two other people had also commented that his tail was moving more and more!

One week later, Cowboy came back to our clinic for another blood panel. On his physical examination, his bladder was now the size of an orange!! Very different from the Cantaloupe sized bladder he normally had. The owner had witnessed him create a large stream of urine on more than one occasion. Being the doctor

that I am, again I asked the owner how often he was getting his Raindrops. Again, I was put into a little bit of shock. He was now getting a Kitty Raindrop Treatment TWICE A DAY!!!! Again, I waited on pins and needles for the blood work results.

Although I recommend supporting cats with NingXia Red when using oils with them, this was not something that Cowboy was getting. He was still on his whole food supplements and a good diet – however, we had neglected to start him on NingXia Red from the very beginning. I began to second guess this oversight as I waiting for the blood work to return. When the results came over the fax machine, my technician looked like she was going to explode. What was wrong? I couldn't take it – GIVE ME THE RESULTS ALREADY!!!

Species	Breed	Sex	Pet Age	Reported
Feline	Domestic Short Hair	CM		07/21/2010 11:40 AM
Test Requested	Results	Reference Range	Units	
SUPERCHEM				
Total Protein	6.9	5.2-8.8	g/dL	
Albumin	3.8	2.5-3.9	g/dL	
Globulin	3.1	2.3-5.3	g/dL	
Albumin/Globulin Ratio	1.2	0.35-1.5	RATIO	
AST (SGOT)	26	10-100	U/L	
ALT (SGPT)	41	10-100	U/L	
Alkaline Phosphatase	20	6-102	U/L	
GGTP	<5	1-10	U/L	
Total Bilirubin	0.1	0.1-0.4	mg/dL	
Urea Nitrogen	34	14-36	mg/dL	
Creatinine	1.8	0.6-2.4	mg/dL	
BUN/Creatinine Ratio	19	4-33	RATIO	
Phosphorus	4.7	2.4-8.2	mg/dL	
Glucose	85	64-170	mg/dL	
Calcium	9.8	8.2-10.8	mg/dL	
Magnesium	1.9	1.5-2.5	mEq/L	
Sodium	159 (HIGH)	145-158	mEq/L	
Potassium	4.6	3.4-5.6	mEq/L	
Na/K Ratio	35			
Chloride	115	104-128	mEq/L	
Cholesterol	184	75-220	mg/dL	
Triglycerides	53	25-160	mg/dL	
Amylase	973	100-1200	U/L	
Lipase	88	0-205	U/L	
CPK	122	56-529	U/L	

July Chemistry Results -

(Please note – the high value of the Sodium is only one point above normal range. I consider this insignificant, and well within representation of his previous values.)

100% NORMAL!!! Wow. Not only do I have a cat, getting almost every “no-no” oil on a TWICE a day basis – but the blood values have remained normal, AND the cat has improved in a condition where traditional medicine and surgery say there are no options. When people wonder why I have such a passion for essential oils, and why I want to use them, research them, and teach about them... You only have to feel the amazing emotion that these types of results mean to me. To be a doctor, to know that your job is to heal; and to not be able to do that – is the most heart-breaking feeling on earth. To watch an owner struggle with the thought of the loss of their companion, sharing tears with them, understanding their pain. Then, to discover an answer, one direct from the awesome power of nature, is indescribable.

This is why I love essential oils. They are a new frontier in veterinary medicine. They give me hope and potential answers where there were previously none. Sadly, the ancient wisdom of using nature's essential oils is being considered "new age" in all fields of medicine, human or animal. Hopefully, through documentation of cases like Cowboy's, we can start to show the safety and efficacy that can be had when nature's power is harnessed in its true and pure form.

Please remember – that I only recommend the use of Young Living Essential Oils for your human family and your animal family. With this recommendation, I am certain that you will have safe and powerful oils, with consistent results. I never have to guess at the quality of the oil that you have... If they are Young Living Oils, I know that they are medical grade, and I don't even have to question it.

Feel free to contact our office for more information on how to order Young Living Essential oils, or for consultations on how to use essential oils for the health of your entire family – two legged and four legged (and on our farm, sometimes three legged!).

"Mother Nature gave us the gift of healing. Providing our bodies with the nutrients, substances, and care required to heal, lies in our own actions."

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