# When to seek care for a sick community cat

## Upper respiratory infections



## MILD

## Continue to monitor, no care is needed at this time

Nose: Occasional sneezing, clear liquid around nose

**Breathing:** Normal

Eyes: Normal or clear discharge from eye, minimal

redness

**Appetite**: Eating normally

## Unless improving, seek care within 1-2 days

**Nose:** Frequent sneezing, clear, thick, cloudy or yellow liquid bubbling from nose

#### **MODERATE**

**Breathing:** Sounds slightly congested or raspy when breathing, barely audible

**Eyes:** Clear to yellow thick discharge from eyes, some redness and swelling

Appetite: Normal to slightly decreased

#### SEVERE

### Unless improving, seek care within 12-24 hours

**Nose:** Constant sneezing, large amount of yellow/green nasal discharge that is plugging up nose or bloody nasal discharge

**Breathing**: Very raspy or congested breathing (can hear across the room)

**Eyes:** Redness, so much swelling the eye is barely visible, large amount of yellow/green mucous discharge, eyes may be crusted shut. eyes closed most or all of the time

Appetite: Not eating

#### **EMERGENCY**

Seek emergency veterinary care immediately if:

- Open mouth breathing
- Gasping for air, and/or abdomen moving more than chest

#### Where do I take my community cat for medical care?

For **moderate to severe** upper respiratory infections needing veterinary care please contact Indy Neighborhood Cats to coordinate treatment with a community cat friendly clinic.

E-mail: **info@indyneighborhoodcats.org** (fees may apply, financial assistance available)

For **emergencies**, please confine the cat and contact Indianapolis Animal Care Services via **http://maps.indy.gov/requestindy/** for ACS to transport and assess the cat.

Always travel with your community cat in a secure carrier or humane trap.

Made in partnership with:





