



## What to Expect at a Sick Visit

### Vomiting & Diarrhea Concerns

Digestive upset can be stressful and messy—and we know how concerning it is when your pet isn't feeling well. Our goal during these visits is to assess how serious the problem is, identify possible causes, and help your pet feel better as safely and quickly as possible.

*(This visit has been carefully reviewed by our hospital cat, Squeaky.)*



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### Front Desk: Check-In

When you arrive, our front desk team will:

- Check you and your pet in
- Confirm any recent updates to your information
- Make sure we understand the reason for today's visit



**Squeaky says:** "I strongly oppose vomiting. **Diarrhea** too."



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### Meet the Nurse: History Is Key

One of our veterinary nurses will bring you to a private exam room to:

- Take your pet's vital signs (including weight and temperature)
- Review symptoms such as vomiting, diarrhea, appetite changes, or lethargy
- Ask questions about diet changes, treats, trash exposure, travel, stress, or known toxin access
- Discuss duration, frequency, and appearance of symptoms

**Please let us know if your pet is anxious, has food allergies or treat-motivated.**

Some pets don't feel well enough to tolerate handling, and we tailor our approach with patience, gentle techniques, and—when appropriate—**well-timed cookie bribes**. . Feel free to bring in high value treats from home that your animal will tolerate and love so we can safely spoil them.



**Squeaky says:** "It's ok. I get an upset stomach too sometimes."

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## Meet the Doctor: Assessing Severity

Your veterinarian will:

- Perform a focused physical exam (hydration, abdominal comfort, gums, etc.)
- Assess whether the condition appears mild, moderate, or urgent
- Discuss possible causes such as dietary indiscretion, infections, parasites, pancreatitis, stress, or underlying disease

Not all GI upset is the same—some cases improve quickly, while others require further investigation.

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## Possible Diagnostics We May Recommend (and Why)

Depending on your pet's symptoms and exam findings, we may recommend:

- **Fecal testing:**  
To check for intestinal parasites or infectious causes
- **Bloodwork:**  
To evaluate hydration status, organ function, inflammation, infection, or pancreatitis
- **Parvovirus testing (when appropriate):**  
For puppies or unvaccinated dogs with concerning symptoms
- **X-rays or ultrasound:**  
If we're concerned about a blockage, foreign material, or abdominal pain
- **Additional testing or referral:**  
For ongoing, severe, or recurrent cases

Diagnostics help us determine the safest and most effective treatment plan—rather than guessing.



**Squeaky says:** “Guessing belongs in mystery novels. Not medicine.”

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## Treatment & Follow-Up

Treatment may include:

- Anti-nausea or anti-diarrheal medications
- Fluids (oral or injectable)
- Diet changes or prescription GI food
- Supportive care and at-home monitoring

We'll review:

- How to give medications
- What improvement should look like
- When symptoms are no longer normal
- When to call us or seek emergency care

Some cases require recheck visits to ensure full recovery.



## Payment Options

We strive to keep care accessible and transparent. Payment options include:

- Cash and major credit cards
- **CareCredit:** <https://www.carecredit.com>
- **Cherry Payment Plans:** <https://pay.withcherry.com/hoboken-vets-animal-clinic>

Our team is happy to answer questions about estimates and options.

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## Our Vision – and Your Feedback

Our vision is **a clinic where learning is constant, compassion is real, and integrity leads the way—making veterinary care clearer, kinder, and easier for every pet parent.**

If there's anything we can do to make your visit smoother or your pet more comfortable, please let us know. Your feedback helps us improve the care we provide.

Thank you for trusting us with your pet.

**Squeaky says:** “Feeling better is the goal. Treats are a bonus.”

