Felimazole® treatment & monitoring flowchart

Hyperthyroidism diagnosed

Perform a nutritional assessment and ensure the cat is being fed an appropriate diet*

Non-azotaemic or IRIS Stage 1 - 2 Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD)

Use of Felimazole in cats with CKD should be subject to careful risk : benefit assessment. Renal function should be monitored closely after onset of Felimazole therapy

Start Felimazole at 5 mg/day, administered as 2.5 mg BID

If, for reasons of compliance, SID dosing with a 5 mg tablet is preferable, then this is acceptable (although the 2.5 mg tablet given twice daily may be more efficacious in the short term)

Evaluate and manage CKD as per IRIS guidelines (www.iris-kidney.com), including use of renal diet if appropriate e.g. SPECIFIC™ FKD/FKW Kidney Support

Azotaemic or IRIS Stage 3-4 Chronic Kidney Disease (ckd)

Use of Felimazole in cats with CKD should be subject to careful risk : benefit assessment. Renal function should be monitored closely after onset of Felimazole therapy

Gradually introduce Felimazole, starting with the lowest possible dose

Evaluate and manage CKD as per IRIS guidelines (www.iris-kidney.com), including use of renal diet e.g. SPECIFIC™ FKD/FKW Kidney Support

Total T4, Haematology and Biochemistry should be assessed after 3 weeks, 6 weeks, 10 weeks, 20 weeks, and thereafter every 3 months

Aim for a Total T4 concentration in the LOWER HALF of the reference interval (<35 nmol/l approx.) and AVOID IATROGENIC HYPOTHYROIDISM. Timing of Total T4 sampling is not important

Regular monitoring of blood pressure is also recommended

Total T4 below reference interval

Reduce Felimazole dose by 1.25-2.5 mg per day

Total T4 in lower half of reference interval

Non-azotaemic

Continue current dose

Azotaemic

Stable azotaemia, no to mild clinical signs of CKD (IRIS Stage 1 - 3)

DO NOT adjust Felimazole dose – maintain Total T4 in lower half of reference interval

Evaluate and manage CKD as per IRIS guidelines, including use of renal diet if appropriate e.g. SPECIFIC™ FKD/FKW Kidney Support

Unstable azotaemia, moderate to marked clinical signs of CKD (IRIS Stage 3 - 4)

Reduce Felimazole dose by 1.25-2.5 mg per day but aim to maintain Total T4 within upper half of reference interval if possible

Evaluate and manage CKD as per IRIS guidelines, including use of renal diet e.g. SPECIFIC™ FKD/FKW Kidney Support

Total T4 in upper half of reference interval or above reference interval

Check owner compliance. If no issues then:

Increase Felimazole dose by 1.25-2.5 mg per day

OR

If Total T4 in upper half of reference interval and significantly decreased from previous test, could continue current dose and reassess at next test

NB: If unstable azotaemia with moderate to marked clinical signs of CKD (IRIS Stage 3 - 4), still aim to maintain Total T4 within upper half of reference interval if possible

Continue to monitor as per datasheet recommendations

Maintain appropriate Total T4 concentration using the lowest possible dose of Felimazole

Continue to evaluate the nutritional status of the cat and adjust diet if necessary*

*See the SPECIFIC™ Diets guide on 'Nutritional support of the hyperthyroid cat' for further details

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