# Orphaned Kitten Physical Exam

## Exam

### Normal Finding
- **Weight**
  - Birth: ~100 g (2-4 oz.)
  - Gain 7-10% of birth weight each day (10-15g)
  - Weight doubles by 2 weeks

### Abnormal Finding
- Underweight for age
- Not gaining weight

### Attitude
- Bright and alert
- Hardly cries

### Body condition
- 0-6 weeks: Plump and round
- Symmetrical body and limbs

### Coat condition
- Hair shiny and free of debris

### Muscle tone
- Strong

### Rectal temperature
- 0-2 weeks: 95-99°F
- 2-4 weeks: 97-100°F
- 4+ weeks: 100-101.5°F

### Heart rate
- 220-260 beats per minute

### Respiratory rate
- Birth: 10-18 BPM
- After 1 week: 16-32 BPM

### Reflexes
- 0-14 days: Rooting, and suckle reflex
- 0-39 days: Elimination reflex
- 0-7 days: Gag reflex
- 3-17 days: Startle reflex
- 6-8 days: Shiver reflex

### Oral exam
- Palate closed
- 2-3 weeks: Incisor 1 and 2
- 3-4 weeks: Incisor 3 and canine
- 4-5 weeks: Lower premolar
- 5-6 weeks: Upper premolar

### Mucus membranes
- Pink, moist and slippery

### Eyes and ears
- 5-14 days: Eyes open
- 6-17 days: Ears open
- 4-6 weeks: Iris color and normal vision

### Abdomen
- Slightly plump and enlarges after nursing
- 2-4 days: Umbilical stump falls off

### Anus/Genital exam
- Present and patent

### Urinary exam
- Dilute yellow
- 3-4 weeks: Urinating on own

### Gastrointestinal
- Responsive to bottle
- Interested in solid food at 3-4 weeks
- Eating dry food by 8 weeks

### Ambulation
- 1-10 days: Forelimb support
- 4 days after forelimbs, hind limb support
- 16 days: Walking
- 21 days: Normal gait
REFERENCES:

