

Kitten and Cat URI Scoring Chart

Guidelines for Need of Veterinary Care:

Any Score of 4 (emergency): Kitten or cat needs emergency veterinary care immediately

Any Score of 3 (severe): Unless improving, kitten or cat needs veterinary care within 12-24 hours

Any Score of 2 (moderate): Unless improving, kitten or cat needs veterinary care within 1-2 days

All scores are 1 (mild): Continue to monitor kitten or cat, no veterinary care is needed now

	1 (Mild)	2 (Moderate)	3 (Severe)	4 (Emergency)
Sneezing	Infrequent, no sneeze marks on walls	Frequent, some sneeze marks on walls	Constant, lots of sneeze marks on walls	
Nasal Discharge	Clear liquid that is not bubbling from nose	Clear liquid bubbling from nose, or small amount of thicker cloudy or yellow mucous discharge	Large amount of yellow or green mucous discharge that is plugging up the nose, or blood tinged discharge	
Congestion, Difficult or Labored Breathing	Occasional slight raspy breathing (barely audible)	Raspy breathing (can only hear up close to kitten or cat)	Very raspy breathing (can hear across the room)	Open mouth breathing, gasping for air, and/or abdomen moving more than chest
Conjunctivitis (Swelling and redness of the white part of the eyes and inner part of the eyelids)	Slight redness, no swelling	Redness, some swelling	Redness, so much swelling that the eye is barely visible	
Eye Discharge	Clear and runny	Small amount of thicker cloudy to yellow mucous discharge	Large amount of yellow or green mucous discharge, eye(s) may be crusted shut	
Eye Squinting or Excessive Eye Blinking	Occasional squinting or excessive blinking	Constant squinting or excessive blinking	Eye(s) closed most or all the time	
Corneal Ulcers (sores on the surface of the clear part of the eye)	Barely visible spot on cornea	Spot on cornea	Very easily seen spot on cornea, may have blood vessels growing toward it	Ruptured cornea (eye suddenly decreases in size, fluid leaks out of eye, eye is very painful)
Oral Ulcers (sores on the inside of the mouth, including the tongue)	Barely visible small and/or flat sore(s), minimal redness, no drooling	Visible larger and/or deeper sore(s), moderate redness, occasional drooling	Very easily seen large deep sore(s) that may be blood tinged, lots of drooling, refusal to eat	
Nasal Ulcers (sores on the outside of and/or on the inside of the nose)	Barely visible small and/or flat sore(s) on nose, minimal redness	Visible larger and/or deeper sore(s) on nose, moderate redness	Very easily seen large deep sore(s) on nose that may be blood tinged	
Lethargy (weakness or lack of energy)	Not as active as usual	Not active, sleeping more than usual	Sleeping excessively, limited movement, disinterest in surroundings	Barely moving, difficulty holding head up, lying flat out, and/or not responsive
Body Temperature Temperature ¹ : 0-1 week 95-99°F 2-3 weeks 97-100°F 4 weeks 99-101°F Normal Cat Temperature: >4 weeks 100.5-102.5°F	Temperature is 0.5 degrees above or below normal	Temperature is 1 degree above or below normal	Temperature is 1.5 degrees above or below normal	Temperature is at least 2 degrees above or below normal
Appetite	Slightly decreased appetite	Significantly decreased (eating or nursing 50% less than normal)	Not eating and/or not nursing and is 4 weeks of age or older	Not eating and/or not nursing and is younger than 4 weeks
Age of Kitten or Cat with URI Symptoms (The urgency of seeking veterinary care varies with age)	6-8 weeks	4-5 weeks	Younger than 4 weeks	

¹ [Maddie's Kitten and Puppy Temperature Chart](#)