

## A Warm Hello

**A feline veterinary expert is here to answer your questions at CatChannel.com.**

*Arnold Plotnick, D.V.M.*

My primary job (and all-consuming passion) is to keep my 3500 patients healthy and help them grow old gracefully. Its a big task, but its exciting, and I love doing it. Just this week, I diagnosed inflammatory bowel disease in a cat with chronic vomiting, prescribed a proper diet for a 23-pound cat (whose ideal weight should be around 14 pounds), euthanized a 2-year-old cat with FIP (a devastating, fatal viral infection), adjusted the insulin dosage for a difficult-to-regulate diabetic, and manually extracted an enormous amount of impacted feces from a cat with megacolon, a disorder of the large intestine.

In fact, three hours ago, I performed abdominal exploratory surgery on Hali, a 4-year-old cat with chronic diarrhea. I obtained biopsy specimens from the small intestine and lymph nodes. I fear that this cat has intestinal cancer, but I won't know until the laboratory results come back in two or three days.

Vomiting, diarrhea, obesity, constipation, diabetes these are my typical cases. I consider myself a real world practitioner; the cases that I see and the problems I try to solve in my practice every day are the same kinds of problems that you, the reader, may be experiencing with your own cat(s). I consider my readers to be my extended clientele. So, whether you're dealing with a new and mysterious feline problem, or you've received the diagnosis from your vet and are seeking a second opinion or a different perspective, feel free to submit your questions to this website. Hopefully, the advice and opinions I provide will help your cat grow old gracefully, too.

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