

AAFP Position Statement

Transportation of cats in motor vehicles

The American Association of Feline Practitioners (AAFP) advocates transporting cats safely, minimizing feline distress and promoting overall an emotionally positive experience for the cat.

Veterinary professionals working with cats are charged with educating clients/caregivers on what is an

appropriate carrier (size and material) for the cat, acclimating and training the cat to the carrier, and secure placement of the carrier within the vehicle.

While not the exclusive reason, the most frequent reason cats are transported away from their home is for health examinations at the veterinary practice. The veterinary visit actually

starts at the home by following the mentioned principles to minimize feline distress and promote a more positive experience within the veterinary practice.

From time to time, the AAFP will respond to emerging new knowledge or issues of concern to veterinary professionals caring for cats. Our position statements, which represent the views of the association, are available at: catvets.com/guidelines/position-statements



In order to educate veterinary professionals, veterinary team members and clients/caregivers toward these goals, the following resources are available:

- ❖ **AAFP and ISFM Feline-Friendly Handling Guidelines** (page 367) catvets.com/handling
- ❖ **Getting your cat to the veterinarian – AAFP client brochure** catvets.com/brochures
- ❖ **Choosing the perfect cat carrier – AAFP Cat Friendly Homes** catfriendly.com/cat-carriers
- ❖ **Cats and carriers: friends not foes – Catalyst Council** catalystcouncil.org/resources

This Position Statement is intended to update and replace the AAFP's earlier '2010 Transport of cats' Position Statement.

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