

NAME _____

Help! My cats are ill!

Dear Dr Care,

I've got three cats at home – Amy, Sam and Lucy. All of the cats had been stray animals until I brought them home five years ago.

Last week, I couldn't find Sam for two days. I finally found him in a residential area near my home, but he was bleeding and in pain. I soon realised what had happened. Sam had had a fight with a homeless cat and clearly, he had lost. The next day, I took him to the vet, but the vet wasn't too worried about Sam's condition. He seemed to be right, because after that, Sam started getting better. He was quite happy and he was eating as usual. But yesterday, Amy suddenly stopped eating and began sneezing and coughing. She also seemed to have a high temperature. Later, Sam showed signs of a high temperature, too. Now, both of them are experiencing breathing problems.

I'm very worried about Amy and Sam. Have they caught an exotic or dangerous virus from the stray cat? If Lucy goes near them, will she also catch the virus?

If I had had a car this morning, I would have taken the cats to the vet. I will have a car this evening, so I'm going to take them then. But what can I do for them right now?

Thank you,

Cat Lover

Dear Cat Lover,

I wouldn't worry about exotic viruses if I were you. The symptoms you are describing sound like the common cat flu.

If you put Lucy in a different room for the next week, hopefully she won't catch the virus. Make sure to give Amy and Sam plenty of water to drink and I'm sure they'll be fine. I recommend taking them to the vet, because it's important to have a professional look at them.

Good luck,

Dr Care.

1. Read the email that a person sends to a vet and answer the following questions. Choose if the following sentences are True (T), False (F).

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| 1. Amy, Sam and Lucy used to be stray animals. | T | F |
| 2. The homeless cat was hurt more seriously than Sam. | T | F |
| 3. Amy was the first cat to be sick. | T | F |
| 4. Cat Lover doesn't want to take the cats to the vet. | T | F |
| 5. Dr Care isn't very worried about Amy and Sam. | T | F |

2. Answer the following questions:

a) When and how did Cat Lover get his / her cats?

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b) What was the vet's reaction to Sam's problem last week?

.....

c) What symptoms of an illness did Amy have at first

.....

d) What did Cat Lover think was the reason for Amy and Sam's illness?

.....

e) What should Amy and Sam do before going to the vet, according to Dr Care?

.....

3. Find synonyms to the following words in the text

- a) homeless
- b) located
- c) obviously
- d) concerned
- e) enough