

HUMAN SAFETY

A consultation room. Ms. Hayes had just brought her new kitten, Sparky, in for a check-up. Read and complete the dialogue.

feces

deworming

scratches or bites

zoonotic risk

litter box

open wounds

Ringworm

Hygiene

Dr. Chen: "Sparky looks great, Ms. Hayes. As a quick note on safety, we need to discuss—diseases shared between pets and people. The risk is low, but we must protect vulnerable family members, like young children or the elderly."

Ms. Hayes: "I understand. What are the main risks with a kitten?"

Dr. Chen: "Mostly **intestinal parasites** and These are spread through or skin contact. To minimize this risk, focus on three key actions:"

- **First: Always wash hands thoroughly** after handling Sparky, especially before eating and after cleaning the litter box.
- **Waste Control: Clean the daily.** This prevents parasite eggs from becoming infectious. If possible, have someone else do it if you are pregnant or have health concerns.
- **Prevention:** Keep Sparky strictly on his **and parasite prevention schedule**—that's the best defense."

Ms. Hayes: "So, wash hands, clean the litter daily, and stick to the medication. That's very clear and actionable."

Dr. Chen: "Exactly. And finally, avoid letting Sparky lick faces or Clean any immediately. By following these steps, we keep Sparky and your family safe."

Ms. Hayes: "Thank you, Dr. Chen. I appreciate the simple, clear advice."