

INFORMATION RE CATS REQUIRING A DIETARY TRIAL

Examples of hydrolysed protein diets:

Dry and wet products:

Hill's Prescription Diet z/d

Specific Allergen Management Plus FOD-HY (dry) and FOW-HY (wet)

Dry products only:

Royal Canin Veterinary Diet Hypoallergenic

Royal Canin Veterinary Diet Anallergenic

Purina Pro Plan Veterinary Diets HA Hypoallergenic

Specific Food Allergen Management FDD-HY

Virbac Hypoallergy

Examples of single-source novel protein diets:

Dry products only:

Royal Canin Veterinary Diet Sensitivity Control (duck and rice)

Hill's Prescription Diet d/d (duck and green pea)

Wet products only:

Royal Canin Veterinary Diet Sensitivity Control (chicken and rice)

Specific Food Allergen Management FDW (lamb and rice)

HOW TO TRANSITION A CAT'S DIET SUCCESSFULLY

When transitioning a diet;

1. Don't rush it – if necessary take 4-6 weeks, unless your vet has advised a shorter time
2. Start by continuing to offer his current food in a bowl and put down a second bowl with just a teaspoon of the new diet (wet or dry or both) next to the first bowl – I call this 'hiding in plain sight' – cats are more likely to accept a new food if they feel they have control to choose it and are not being tricked into eating it!
3. You might have to throw away a lot if he won't touch it at first, but continue to offer it like this until (fingers crossed) he will eat it.
4. Do not starve/withhold normal food to force him to eat the new food
5. If he eats it up, the next step is to GRADUALLY increase the amount of the new food given and gradually reduce the current food down by the same amount. Very small increases – 1 teaspoon every few days
6. Fingers crossed, he will accept the transition like this with no fuss! Try to normalise the routine of feeding so he is not suspicious
7. If after 2 weeks he is still refusing it – you might have to try another brand.
8. We can force a transition if required by using an appetite stimulant drug, I don't like to do this but when needs must...