

Nebulisation

Nebulisation is a technique used in both human and veterinary medicine to treat patients with respiratory disease. It involves pushing pressurised liquid (either saline or a medication in water or saline) through air to produce a fine vapour/mist that can enter the smallest airways within the lungs. This assists the patient in clearing out any mucous or inflammatory debris and also provides an effective way to administer medications to patients in respiratory distress.

I have a nebuliser at home. Can I use this for my pet?

In general, yes. If the nebuliser you have at home can be modified so that the tubing can be directed into a box, container or your pet's carry cage, the nebuliser can be used. The best nebuliser is one that is large/powerful enough to quickly fill up the temporary container your pet is placed in. In the setup shown in the photo where there are many openings to the surrounding air, material such as cling-wrap can be used to limit the amount of mist that escapes.

Some nebulisers that use human face mask attachments are not appropriate for many pets, as placing these near their face can cause significant stress.

It is also worth noting that some nebulisers don't produce vapour particle sizes that are small enough to be effective for some pets so it's best to check with us if you are unsure.

Where can I purchase a nebuliser?

If you don't have a nebuliser at home, you can often purchase one from your local chemist. We also rent out nebulisers on a per day basis.



What liquid can I use in the nebuliser?

Unless you have been otherwise directed by your veterinarian, only saline water should be used. In some cases, veterinarians will recommend that bronchodilators or anti-mucolytic drugs can be mixed into the saline, but this should only be done as directed as your vet.