

## Thank You

You can make sure your pet has the most nutritionally-sound diet available by paying attention to pet food labels, educating yourself about ingredients, and partnering with companies you can trust to always put the health of your pet first – companies like Oxbow Animal Health.

Many pet parents around the world, just like you, report that Critical Care has a profound effect on the recovery of their little friends. We are thankful to be able to provide this product for your use and are hopeful that your outcome will be successful.

### Veterinarian Guidance

Your veterinarian is the best source of health advice for your pet. Remember that it may become necessary to contact your veterinarian regarding questions that arise while using Critical Care products.

### Special Instructions from Veterinarian:



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# Critical Care<sup>®</sup>



Preparation & Feeding  
Instructions for  
Critical Care Herbivore



## Feeding Guidelines

The type and amount of Critical Care you feed your pet depends on a number of factors, including species, breed, age, weight, and medical condition. The goal in feeding Critical Care is to work toward gradually transitioning your pet back to their normal diet. It is important that you work closely with your veterinarian to develop an appropriate plan for your pet and their particular needs.

## Preparing Critical Care

Critical Care is a convenient, one-step, powdered formula – just add water. The amount of water added can vary depending on the suggested feeding method for your pet. Critical Care should be fed at room temperature or slightly warmer to ensure ease of digestion and encourage acceptance.

Ideally, Critical Care should be prepared fresh at each feeding. Always start with fresh drinking water and clean utensils.

*Any excess Critical Care Herbivore prepared mix can be refrigerated up to 24 hours and brought to room temperature before the next feeding.*

1



Gather everything you need.

2



Mix the powder with the correct amount of water.

3



Spoon mixture into syringe (or feed mixture with a spoon).

4



Feed with syringe.

## Feeding Methods

One of the many benefits of Critical Care is its versatility. The various feeding methods allow you, the pet parent, to participate in the overall wellness and recovery of your pet. The consistency of the prepared mix will vary based upon both the condition of your pet and the recommendation of your veterinarian.

### Assist-Feeding: Syringe

When syringe feeding, it is often recommended that you restrain your pet. This tends to deter your pet from wanting to eat so it is important that you remain calm and relaxed. Slow and confident movements will decrease stress for both you and your pet. If possible, have someone available to help you the first few times.

Prepare a thin paste of Critical Care in a mixing bowl. Remove the plunger from the syringe and scoop the paste into the back of a syringe's barrel. Replace the plunger and slowly administer small amounts until the recommended dose is fed. Your veterinarian will suggest and provide the appropriate syringe for your pet. (Note: It may not work to fill the syringe by siphoning up through the tip.)

*Suggested mixing ratio – 1 part Critical Care : 2 parts water*

### Assist-Feeding: Spoon

Mix a thick paste and offer it to your pet from a spoon. It may still be necessary to wrap your pet in a soft towel with this feeding method. If so, refer to some helpful guidelines in the General Feeding Tips section.

*Suggested mixing ratios – 1 part Critical Care : 1.5 parts water*

### Self-Feeding: Bowl

As your pet recovers, it may not be necessary to continue assist-feeding. Mix a thick paste and place it in your pet's favorite feeding bowl, enabling your pet to feed themselves. Be sure to clean the bowl between feedings, and clean your pet with a lightly damp towel if they get particularly messy while eating.

*Suggested mixing ratios – 1 part Critical Care : 1.5 parts water*

### Self-Feeding: Topdressing

When your pet is ready to try eating their normal diet, sprinkle dry Critical Care Herbivore as a top dressing to improve food flavor and stimulate their appetite. You may want to mist the food with drinking water to help the powder stick to the food.

*Suggested mixing ratio – 1 part Critical Care*

### Self-Feeding: Funshapes

You are one step closer to completing the transition back to your pet's normal diet! Form fun shapes by using less water during preparation. Be creative – this is a great opportunity to provide enrichment.

*Suggested mixing ratio – 1 part Critical Care : 1 part water*

## Storing Critical Care

Open packets of Critical Care Herbivore dry product can be stored in a sealed container for up to 30 days.

## General Feeding Tips:

- Assemble everything you need prior to beginning Critical Care preparation and feeding.
- Retrieve your pet and choose a location that is comfortable for both of you.
- Wrap your pet in a soft towel if restraint is necessary.
- Slowly administer small amounts until the recommended dose is fed.
- Offer fresh water frequently throughout the feeding process.
- Take short breaks when needed.
- When finished, be sure to praise your pet.

## How do I evaluate successful feeding?

The following changes should be apparent after a few feedings:

- Improvement in stools – consistent in shape, frequency, size, and texture
- Weight gain
- Increased activity level and energy
- Improved appetite