



Nutrition Communication Activity (Client Role)

SCENARIO 1

Client: Mr. or Ms. Humphrey

Patient: 8-year-old spayed female Labrador Retriever named Valentine

Chief Complaint: Wellness exam

History: You have had Valentine since she was a puppy, and she is your only dog. She has been healthy all her life, and her only surgical procedure was when she was spayed as a puppy. You are bringing her in today for her annual wellness visit because you “got the postcard in the mail.” Valentine is due for routine vaccinations and is on parasite preventives.

Key Nutritional History Points:

1. Valentine loves to eat, and you love to feed her. It makes you happy to see her happy.
2. You do not know the name of the diet Valentine eats. It is a brown bag from the local pet store, and the food has “fun shapes and colors.”
3. You feed Valentine 2 cups twice per day. If the DVM asks to quantify the cups, you can describe them as something you picked up from a sporting event (e.g., soccer, basketball). They are about 700 mL (24 oz). Only reveal this information if directly asked about the size of the cups.
4. You occasionally give Valentine treats and some food from your plate at dinner. You may adlib what you feed her. Only reveal this information if directly asked, preferably more than once.
5. Overall, you know that Valentine has probably gained a few pounds but you are not concerned. She seems happy and has not had any health problems. You are not reluctant to have a conversation about her weight, but are also not eager to do so.



SCENARIO 2

Client: Mr. or Ms. McCombs

Patient: 5-year-old spayed female miniature Pinscher named Rosie

Chief Complaint: Wellness exam

History: You adopted Rosie two years ago, and she lives with a cat but no other dogs. She has been healthy since you adopted her, and her only surgical procedure that you know of was when she was spayed as a puppy. You are bringing her in today for her annual wellness visit. Rosie is due for routine vaccinations and is on parasite preventives.



Key Nutritional History Points:

1. Rosie's diet is a premium adult brand that you obtain at the pet store. Feel free to adlib which brand.
2. You feed Rosie the amount that it states on the back of the bag, and you are very strict about not giving her extra. You do not give Rosie any treats.
3. You have two young children and they give Rosie snacks at dinner. Rosie also eats any food that falls to the floor during a meal.
4. You are concerned about Rosie's weight gain, and would like to do something to resolve the issue. However, your children are too young to understand that feeding the dog their food is unhealthy.

SCENARIO 3

Client: Mr. or Ms. Alexander

Patient: 3-year-old castrated male DSH named Simba

Chief Complaint: Wellness exam

History: You have had Simba since he was a kitten, and he is your only cat. He has been healthy all his life, and his only surgical procedure was when he was castrated as a kitten. You are bringing him in today for his annual wellness visit. Simba is due for routine vaccinations and is on parasite preventives.



Key Nutritional History Points:

1. You do not know the name of the diet Simba eats. It is a bit pricey and you obtain it from the local pet store. You chose this food because you saw advertisements for it on your social media, which espouse the benefits of feeding an “organic and natural” diet.
2. You fill the bowl up when it gets empty, and Simba seems to eat the amount he needs. You do not feed any treats or food from the table.