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Sat, 2011-03-26 09:40 — Robin Olson

It's been three weeks since Cara had her first endoscopy. **She endured a very difficult recovery**, while I tried to survive the every-6-hours-for-two-weeks medication schedule. She fussed and squirmed with every syringe filled with Carafate (aptly named, I think), which is used to treat peptic ulcers; said to bind to the ulcer site and coat it. This would help Cara's badly damaged esophagus to heal if I could get the meds into her.

Cara began to eat more comfortably and gained weight. She also began to grow-FINALLY and her odd looking coat began to fill in. Her chocolate brown fur was due to malnutrition. I was sure of this as I saw it change into a darker, more rich, almost black. She looks like a white mitted "classic" tabby, just like her brother, Chester, only he's orange.



©2011 Robin A.F. Olson. Cara at the Vet.

Yesterday I took Cara back to be re-evaluated by Dr. K. The Vet hospital was very busy. I met a woman in the waiting room whose cat had stopped eating for two days, was lethargic and vomiting. I asked her what she was feeding her cat. The answer-really cheap dry kibble. I just about fell over. I tried to figure out a way to talk to her about it but when I broached the subject, she cut me off saying; *"that's what she's been eating her whole life."* So I guess it makes it good? I wasn't up for another battle. I felt badly for the cat. When I left later that morning, she hadn't found out why her cat was so sick. More tests to be done.



©2011 Robin A.F. Olson. Toe flavored toes. Yum!

As for Cara, well **she's just a ray of sunshine**. She purred and climbed on me while we were in the waiting room. She washed her paws and looked around. We waited for a good 30 minutes before Dr. K. came to see us, but I just enjoyed the one-on-one time.

I wish you could have seen what happened next. Dr. K burst into the room. She didn't say hello to me, but walked right over to Cara asking; "How is our girl today?" **With that, she scooped Cara up in her arms and DID NOT LET HER GO the entire time we talked.** She didn't examine her. She just held her tight and petted her and petted her. Clearly, Dr. K has a crush on our little foster feline.



©2011 Robin A.F. Olson. Cara warming up those big green eyes to use on Dr. K.

We spoke about next steps. She said we didn't have to do the endoscopy, but it would be good to have the information. **I reminded her that unless she was going to adopt Cara, that I needed to know if Cara was going to be a special needs adoption** and that we really needed to get to the bottom of this. She agreed. Before I could even wave goodbye to Cara, I was sent on my way, wondering if this sweet woman was going to let me take Cara home or if she was going to stick her in her pocket?

A few hours later, Dr. K. called. Cara's distal stricture (*say that five times, fast*) was still a bit red but about 70-80% healed. **The proximal stricture looked very good and well healed, but there was difficulty passing the scope through the area so she decided (on her own and with out getting permission to spend our money!) to do another balloon dilation.** Before I could say a word she said she **didn't charge us** for it!!! It only took a second of her time and it was just a quick tweak of that area. She administered the steroid shots in to the stricture to keep it from reforming. She did all this "because of all the good work we do."

I'm pretty sure she doesn't know much about my rescue group, [Kitten Associates](#) [1], but **I have a good idea that she DOES have a liking for little Cara.** Way to go, Cara! You put those big green eyes to work!

Dr. K feels that Cara should recover from this health crisis and not be a special needs adoption As she grows, she should do just fine. I need to give Cara two more weeks of medications-thank goodness it's only once every 12 hours this time. After the two weeks has passed, I call Dr. K to update her and hopefully Cara can be spayed and will be ready to be adopted!

Only time, good food and more yucky medications will get Cara ready for what awaits her-a home with a really great family...**Or is it possible that Cara may already be spoken for?**

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YAAAYYYAAAYY! [16]

I'm doing a happydance for sweet little Cara! I'm so glad she's recovering so well ... and I hope Dr. K. decides to adopt her, too. You couldn't ask for a better adoptive home than with a vet who loves and cares deeply about Cara. :-)

Sat, 2011-03-26 13:41 — [acninee](#) [17]

I'm thinking the best reason [18]

I'm thinking the best reason to do the dilation quickly like that was to reduce stress on Cara. Dr. K does sound like a sweetheart.

Sat, 2011-03-26 15:17 — [Marg \(not verified\)](#) [19]

That really is exciting that [20]

That really is exciting that she is getting better. It does sound like she might have a home and what could be better than a vet. She really is so cute.

Tue, 2011-03-29 12:45 — [Shelli](#) [21]

I'm all verklempt! [22]

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