

## My Cat Koko's Brave Battle since 2021 by Doroteya Krasteva

In 2021, my beloved cat Koko, who was 15 years old at the time, started experiencing severe breathing difficulties. I noticed that he was struggling to catch his breath and panic set in. Without hesitation, I rushed him to the vet, fearing the worst.



At the clinic, after a thorough examination and several tests, the veterinarians delivered heartbreaking news. Koko had developed fluid in his chest cavity, which was putting immense pressure on his lungs, causing the difficulty in breathing. The vets explained that this condition was serious, as the fluid buildup was compressing his lungs, making it nearly impossible for him to breathe properly.

Koko was sedated and the vets immediately drained the fluid to give him some relief. However, our hope was short-lived. The next day, the fluid returned and Koko began to struggle again. The vets conducted more tests and X-rays, but the prognosis was grim. They advised that the most humane option would be to put him to sleep, as the condition was untreatable in cats.

However, we couldn't bring ourselves to say goodbye so soon. We decided to seek other opinions and ended up visiting six different veterinary clinics. Sadly, all of them confirmed the same diagnosis: this condition was fatal in cats. Each vet said there was nothing more to be done.



But in the final clinic we visited, there was a glimmer of hope. Despite agreeing that Koko's condition was likely incurable, the vets there were willing to try and help him. Over the next four months, we made weekly visits to have the fluid drained from Koko's chest. Some weeks were harder than others, with the fluid accumulating so quickly that we had to go in twice. Koko was prescribed painkillers, antibiotics, and steroidal anti-inflammatories—medications that, while providing relief, were not without their own risks.

There were moments when Koko seemed to improve, moments where he had more energy and appeared to be in less pain. But there were also times when his condition deteriorated rapidly, and he was on the brink of death. During one of these particularly critical moments, we were introduced to Georgi, our trusted Bowen therapist.

At that point, I had no idea what Bowen therapy was, but I had heard excellent reviews from a close friend who had been seeing Georgi. Trusting my friend's recommendation, we decided to give it a try. To our amazement, Koko started to show visible signs of improvement not long after we placed him in Georgi's care. After the first session, Koko slept deeply for nearly 14 hours without waking up, just as Georgi had warned us might happen.

After a few more visits, Koko became noticeably more energetic and agile. When we took him back to the vet for a check-up, expecting another draining of the fluid from his chest, we were stunned. The ultrasound showed no fluid at all. We returned again for a second check-up and still, there was no fluid. Over the next few months, the fluid never returned.



Over the past three years, our cat has been under regular care from Georgi and I can confidently say that his treatments have made a world of difference in Koko's health. Whether it was a minor concern or a more serious issue, we have always sought Georgi's help for any problem that arose. Every time, Koko responded remarkably well to the therapy, showing clear signs of improvement and in many cases, the symptoms that had worried us would disappear entirely.

One consistent indicator that Koko is responding positively to the treatment is his pattern of behavior after each session. Immediately following a therapy session, Koko typically falls into a deep and extended sleep. This period of rest often lasts several hours. When he finally wakes up, he drinks water frequently, which is another good sign that his body is recovering and rebalancing.

Our most recent visit to Georgi was prompted by a more serious concern. After receiving a pain-relief injection, Koko became lethargic, refusing to eat or drink, and at one point, he even struggled to stand on his own. Understandably, we were deeply worried about his condition. However, following the latest session with Georgi, Koko once again fell into a deep sleep, resting for nearly 16 hours. When he awoke, he immediately began drinking large amounts of water, which gave us hope that he was on the mend.

Since that session, we have seen consistent improvement in Koko's overall condition with every follow-up therapy. His energy has slowly returned, and while he is still recovering, we are incredibly grateful for the progress made under Georgi's care. His treatments have proven to be a lifeline for Koko and we remain optimistic about his full recovery.

This account highlights how Georgi's consistent, thoughtful care has positively impacted Koko's health over the years. The way he responds after each session, especially his long sleeps and increased water intake, provides a clear indication that the therapy is working.

Each time, Koko's condition visibly improves and he returns to his playful, happy self. Thanks to Georgi's dedication and care, Koko's battle has become a story of hope and resilience.

### **Georgi Ilchev:**

I met Dorothea when she brought her cat Koko for a treatment. They came to my clinic about three years ago with Koko in a critical condition. His lungs were filled with pleural effusion and he was barely able to breathe. He was laying in the carrier they brought him in, barely lifting his head. At that time, my Bowen experience with cats was fairly minimal so I decided it would be best to simply activate his body and healing processes doing only lower and upper stoppers and the neck moves.



A few days later, Koko came in again and this time I also applied the supine Respiratory moves. His condition visibly improved and with each passing day he became more active and lively.

Over the years, Koko has returned to me multiple times with various complaints, most often respiratory issues. I noticed that the Sternum procedure has a particularly positive effect on him and this has become the main procedure I use for him. I've also applied the Kidney procedure when his blood tests showed abnormalities and worked on his front paw after an injury from jumping off a tree. However, the Sternum procedure is the one he responds to the quickest and best.

It turned out to be quite easy to apply the Sternum moves. Initially, I would ask Dorothea to hold Koko and turn him onto his back so I could work on his abdomen and chest but this was difficult for him. In some situations, I applied the moves with him lying on his side but over time I learned to work with him while he simply stands on all fours. I slide my hands under his chest and work without the need to seeing them.

Koko has become so accustomed to me and enjoys Bowen therapy so much that he has never shown any aggression or reluctance toward me. I remember once when I needed to do the TMJ Procedure, I tried to work thoroughly on his masticatory muscles and the jaw area and Koko didn't resist. Over time Bowen therapy became a part of Koko's life.

I have seen Koko in a critical condition several times and in these cases he doesn't even try to move. They say cats have nine lives but from what I've seen, I'm convinced Koko has surpassed that number long ago.

Despite his advanced age, Koko has a strong will to live. As of today, he is in good health and he and his owners enjoy mutual love and companionship.

