

Wellness Testing For Your Older Pet

Pets age much more rapidly than humans. With the aging process, changes occur in the function of the body. Some of these changes can be seen from the outside: weight gain or loss, stiffness, dull haircoat, loss of sight or hearing. Some changes, however, occur internally and can't be detected without laboratory testing. Unfortunately, by the time symptoms of illness can be seen, in kidney or liver disease for example, organ damage is already in the advanced stages.

YOUR PET'S APPROXIMATE AGE IN HUMAN YEARS

6 months = 12 years
1 year = 15 years
2 years = 24 years
3 years = 28 years
4 years = 32 years
5 years = 36 years
6 years = 40 years
7 years = 44 years
8 years = 48 years
9 years = 52 years
10 years = 56 years
11 years = 60 years
12 years = 64 years
13 years = 68 years
14 years = 72 years
15 years = 76 years
16 years = 80 years
17 years = 84 years
18 years = 88 years
19 years = 92 years
20 years = 96 years
21 years = 100 years

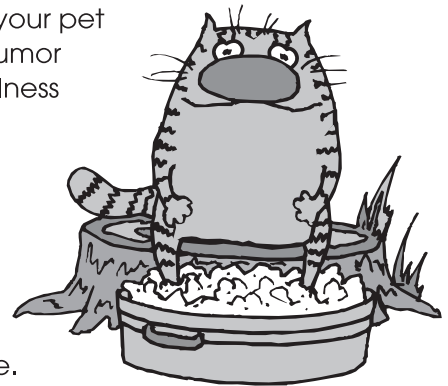
In order to detect organ damage in its early stages, when it can be treated most successfully, we recommend annual blood and urine testing as part of your pet's yearly physical examination. Knowledge of the status of your pet's organ functions, hormone and electrolyte levels and numbers of various blood cells will help us to treat your pet's problems better. The testing may also uncover further problems so we can treat them BEFORE they become dangerous to your pet's health.

We also recommend physical exams twice yearly once your older pet begins to show physical symptoms of old age, and follow-up blood testing as needed for any problems found. We usually require blood tests before administering anesthesia to pets. If your pet needs anesthesia for dental care, tumor removal or other surgery, senior wellness blood tests can be used for that purpose as well.

Remember, good health care will improve the length and quality of your pet's life as he or she ages. Routine blood screening is an important component of good care.

MAJOR PROBLEMS

- Obesity
- Arthritis
- Kidney Disease
- Heart Disease
- Liver Disease
- Tooth/Gum Disease
- Diabetes
- Cancer
- Rear Leg Weakness
- Poor Hair Coat
- Impaired Senses (hearing, sight, smell)
- Memory Loss (loss of habits)



Caring People Helping Pets

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