



PREVENTIVE CARE FOR YOUR FELINE FRIEND

While your cat's health changes with age just as yours does, cats age much faster than we do. That's why it's important to monitor your cat's health as he or she ages.

Do you know how old your cat is in "people years?" Use this chart based on your cat's age and weight to find out!

ACTUAL AGE	Equivalent Human Age (Weight of 0-20 lbs)	ACTUAL AGE	Equivalent Human Age (Weight of 0-20 lbs)
1	7	14	72
2	13	15	76
3	20	16	80
4	26	17	84
5	33	18	88
6	40	19	92
7	44	20	96
8	48		
9	52		
10	56		
11	60		
12	64		
13	68		

Adult

Senior

Geriatric

No matter how old your cat is, you can help him or her stay as healthy as possible by watching for signs of disease or illness, or even just a change in behavior. Approximately 10% of pets that appear healthy to their owners and veterinarians during their annual visits have underlying diseases.¹

10 SIGNS YOUR CAT MAY BE SICK

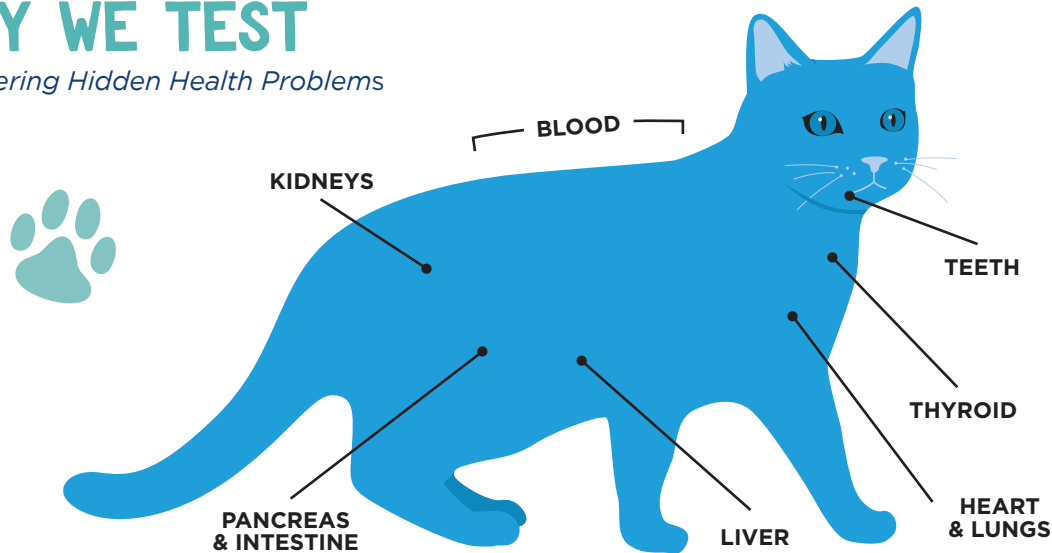
1. Bad breath or drooling
2. Excessive drinking or urination
3. Appetite change with weight loss or gain
4. Change in activity level or lack of interest in doing things they once did
5. Stiffness, difficulty getting up or trouble climbing stairs
6. Sleeping more than usual or other behavior and attitude changes
7. Coughing, sneezing, excessive panting or labored breathing
8. Dry or itchy skin, sores, lumps or shaking of the head
9. Frequent digestive upsets or change in bowel movements
10. Dry, red or cloudy eyes

1. Rehm M. Seeing double. Veterinary Economics. 2007; 48(10): 40-48.



WHY WE TEST

Uncovering Hidden Health Problems



Kidneys | Blood and urine tests can indicate:

- Early kidney disease
- Kidney failure
- Infection
- Stones
- Cancer
- Abnormalities from long-term medications
- Urinalysis and urine protein creatinine ratio tests are used to better evaluate:
 - Kidney function
 - Urinary tract
 - Kidney infection

Pancreas and Intestine

Biochemistry tests can indicate:

- Pancreatitis (inflammation of the pancreas)
- Diabetes mellitus
- Abnormalities resulting from long-term medications
- Cancer
- Fecal tests identify parasites that can cause:
 - Diarrhea
 - Weight loss
 - Blood loss
 - Infections in humans (zoonosis)

Blood | CBC is used to screen for:

- Anemia (low red blood cells)
- Inflammation
- Infection
- Stress
- Leukemia
- Bleeding problem
- Inability to fight infection
- Hydration status

Teeth

Dental exams uncover abnormalities in teeth and the soft tissues of the mouth. Periodontal disease can lead to organ damage and other health issues.

Thyroid

Biochemistry and serum T4 tests can indicate thyroid disease.

Heart and Lungs

We recommend NT-proBNP testing in your cat's yearly exam to help determine the likelihood of underlying heart disease.

Liver | Biochemistry tests can indicate:

- Liver disease
- Dehydration
- Obstruction of the bile ducts
- Abnormalities resulting from long-term medications



WHY IS EARLY DETECTION IMPORTANT?

Early detection of disease reduces your cat's risk and gives you peace of mind. In addition to a physical exam, diagnostic tests give us a better picture of your cat's current state of health. Blood testing can frequently detect illness in your cat before we see any outward signs of disease.

TESTING AS PREVENTIVE CARE

Chemistry tests to screen for kidney, liver and pancreatic disease, as well as to check sugar levels
Complete blood count (CBC) to rule out blood-related conditions

Electrolyte tests to ensure your cat isn't dehydrated or suffering from an electrolyte imbalance

Infectious disease screening to test for feline leukemia (FeLV) and feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV). Plus, immunoassay tests can detect heartworm infection.

Fecal tests to rule out intestinal parasites

Urine tests to screen for urinary tract infections and other diseases and to evaluate the kidneys' ability to concentrate urine

Thyroid test to determine the health and function of the thyroid gland.

Cardiac tests to rule out heart-related issues

Electrocardiogram (ECG) to screen for an abnormal heart rhythm, which may indicate underlying heart disease

MONITORING FOR POTENTIAL HEALTH PROBLEMS IN YOUR CAT

Preventive care helps detect disease in its early stages, when it is most likely to respond to treatment. It also can help you avoid significant medical expense and risk to your pet's health.

Routine preventive care helps us establish normal baseline laboratory values when your pet is young and healthy. Even subtle changes from baseline values can help identify disease as your pet ages, long before they become apparent.

