



PREVENTIVE CARE FOR YOUR CANINE FRIEND

Your pet's health changes with age, just as yours does. But they actually age much faster than we do, which is why it's important to closely monitor your dog's health as he or she ages.

DO YOU KNOW HOW OLD YOUR DOG IS IN "PEOPLE YEARS?"

Use this chart based on your dog's age and weight to find out!



ACTUAL AGE	Equivalent Human Age (Weight of 0-20 lbs)	Equivalent Human Age (Weight of 20-50 lbs)	Equivalent Human Age (Weight of 50-90 lbs)	Equivalent Human Age (Weight of >90 lbs)
1	7	7	8	9
2	13	14	16	18
3	20	21	24	26
4	26	27	31	34
5	33	34	38	41
6	40	42	45	49
7	44	47	50	56
8	48	51	55	64
9	52	56	61	71
10	56	60	66	78
11	60	65	72	86
12	64	69	77	93
13	68	74	82	101
14	72	78	88	108
15	76	83	93	115
16	80	87	99	123
17	84	92	104	131
18	88	96	109	139
19	92	101	115	
20	96	105	120	

Adult
 Senior
 Geriatric

You can help your dog stay as healthy as possible by watching for signs of disease or illness, or even 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 DOG 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

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 tissue of the mouth.

Thyroid

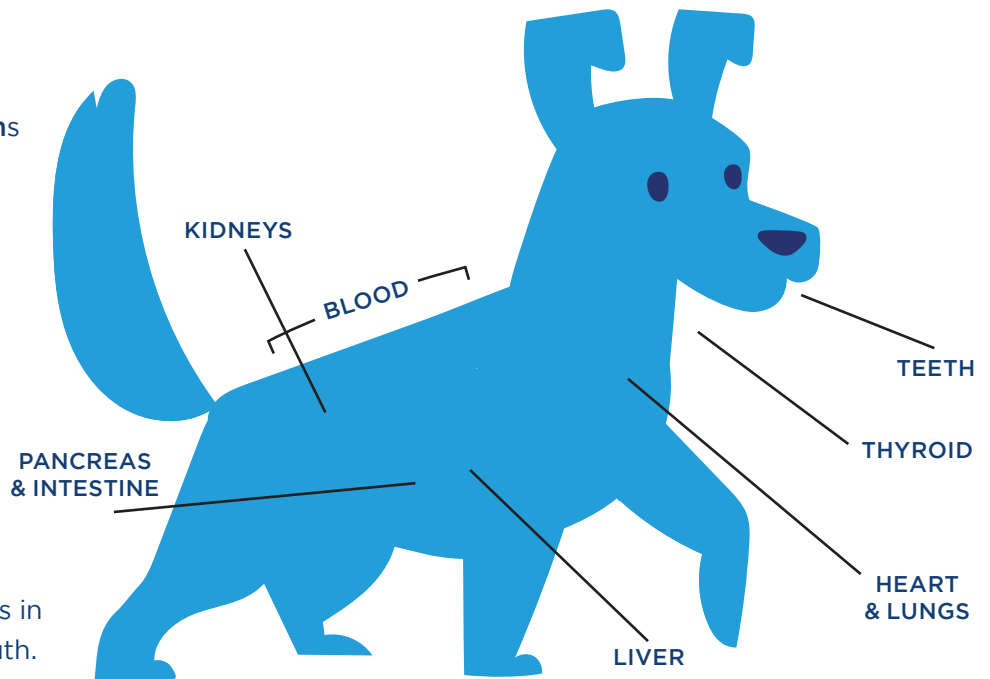
Biochemistry T4 tests can indicate thyroid disease.

Heart and Lungs

Immunoassay tests can detect heartworm disease. Biochemistry tests can indicate cardiac damage.

Liver | Biochemistry tests can indicate:

- Liver disease
- Cushing's syndrome
- Certain cancers
- Dehydration
- Obstruction of the bile ducts
- Abnormalities resulting from long-term medications



Kidneys | Blood and urinalysis can indicate:

- Early kidney disease
- Kidney failure
- Infection
- Stones
- Cancer
- Abnormalities from long-term medications

Pancreas & Intestine | Biochemistry tests can indicate:

- Pancreatitis (inflammation of the pancreas)
- Diabetes mellitus
- Abnormalities resulting from long-term medications
- Cancer



WHY IS EARLY DETECTION IMPORTANT?

In addition to a physical exam, diagnostic tests give us a better picture of your pet's current state of health. Blood testing can frequently detect illness in your dog before we see any outward signs of disease.

TESTING AS PREVENTIVE CARE

BioChemistry tests to screen for kidney, liver and pancreatic disease, as well as to check sugar levels

Blood parasite screening to identify if your pet has been exposed to vector-borne (e.g., heartworm) or other infectious diseases

Fecal tests to rule out intestinal parasites

Complete blood count (CBC) to rule out blood-related conditions

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

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

Thyroid tests to determine the health and function of the thyroid gland

Cardiac tests to rule out heart-related issues

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

MONITORING FOR POTENTIAL HEALTH PROBLEMS IN YOUR DOG

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.

