



BESTPRACTICE™
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COMPANION ANIMAL NEWS

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Volume 1

Is your elderly pet 'slowing down'?



Pets don't 'slow down' for no reason. Age in itself is not a disease. Signs to look out for include?

- Lameness
- Increased drinking / peeing
- Weight loss
- Increased or decreased appetite
- Poor coat condition
- Hair loss
- Changes in behavior
- Blindness

To investigate many disease processes that effect pets it is often necessary to carry out a blood test.

A blood test will help your vet to rule in or out certain disease processes such as cancer, endocrine disorders, kidney disease and diabetes.

Are they having trouble jumping onto furniture or up into the ute?

They may have arthritis

- Many aging pets are affected by arthritis which is a very painful condition.
- Arthritis (Osteoarthritis), which is also known as Degenerative joint disease (DJD), is defined as the progressive and permanent long-term deterioration of the cartilage surrounding the joints.
- This causes pain and therefore pets cannot jump up onto things like they used to and sometimes can no longer even tolerate going for walks without becoming lame.
- If you are concerned your pet may be suffering from Osteoarthritis call us today and make an appointment with one of our vets.
- We have various treatment options

available including a monthly tablet (Trocoxil) that gives constant pain relief.



Why feed a prescription diet?



Prescription diets are scientifically formulated to provide the specific nutrients for your pet when they have a certain disease or condition. The diets are made up of all of the nutrients that your pet needs so you are able to feed them as the sole diet! The diets we have are:

Feline:

- Weight management
- Hairball control
- Dental health
- Urinary tract health
- Renal Health
- Thyroid Health

Canine:

- Intestinal
- Sensitive skin
- Dermatitis
- Joint mobility
- Z/d ultra (allergic skin)

Promotions

*Get a free Wild Bean Café coffee with any Seresto collar or 3 pack of Advocate flea treatments.

* Go in the draw to win: A dog or cat goody bag with any Iams, Eukanuba, Hills or Royal Canin products.

Feline Hyperthyroidism

Over 10% of elderly cats will develop this condition.

Hyperthyroidism occurs when cats develop a benign (non cancerous) growth on the thyroid gland. This causes the gland to produce excess thyroid hormones causing various clinical signs. Signs to look for include:

- Weight loss
- Increased appetite
- Increased urination / drinking
- Hyperactivity / restlessness+
- Vomiting
- Diarrhoea
- Lump in throat area
- Poor coat



A cat with hyperthyroidism

We have various treatment options for hyperthyroidism including gel which goes on the inside of the cats ear daily or pills. There is also the option of referral for radio active iodine treatment which is a permanent treatment. Cats which have this disease will need daily treatment for the rest of their life.

Dr Weasel's Canine Concerns

Does your dog have sore ears?



To prevent ear infections you can clean your dogs ears weekly with Otoclense solution.

Otoclense helps to clean and dry out the ear canal and breaks down wax which helps to prevent inflammation and infection.

Come and ask our vets about Otoclense today.

What to look for if your dog has sore ears:

- Shaking head
- Scratching ears
- Rubbing head, ears on ground

Many dogs swim a lot at this time of year. Wet ear canals mean that ears are more likely to become inflamed and /or infected.

Dogs with long hanging ears e.g. cocker spaniels or King Charles Spaniels have an increased risk of getting infected or inflamed ears.



If you notice any of these signs then your dog will most likely need a vet check up.

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