



Recommended Wellness Plan for Your Senior Cat

At seven years of age we consider our feline patients senior citizens. Older cats tend to be susceptible to many diseases. Thanks to our advancing veterinary technology, many of these diseases are easily and successfully treated if they are found early. Our hospital philosophy is to provide you with the best veterinary care available for your senior cat. We feel strongly that the wellness plan outlined below will help us understand the status of your cat's body as well as help him or her stay healthy for as long as possible.

Senior Comprehensive Physical Examination: Twice per year.

Vaccinations

We follow the most up to date recommendations on vaccinations from the American Academy of Feline Practitioners (AAFP). Cats that live indoors need fewer vaccinations. Cats that go outdoors need more vaccines as well as other preventative care due to the environmental hazards that they face. Most cats will receive an FDR (Feline Distemper, Rhinotracheitis & Calicivirus) injection every three years. Your cat will be vaccinated for rabies every year with a new, safer and gentler vaccine. If your cat is allowed outdoors, we will administer a yearly feline leukemia vaccination. We will make specific vaccination recommendations according to the lifestyle of your cat.

Fecal Centrifugation and Giardia Elisa

By bringing a fresh stool sample (not more than 24 hours old), we can look for any intestinal parasites that cats can obtain from contact with other animals or by eating wildlife or bugs. Cats that go outside are at much higher risk for catching parasites but indoor cats can catch parasites, too. Some of these parasites are contagious to people, especially children and immunocompromised individuals. If you are unable to obtain a stool sample, we can administer a broad spectrum dewormer to your cat which will eliminate the most common gastrointestinal parasites.

Blood pressure screening may be recommend at the doctors discretion.

Annual Senior Bloodwork and Urinalysis

We will collect both a blood and urine sample from your cat. A complete blood count, biochemical profile, two-part thyroid test and urinalysis will be submitted to the laboratory for testing.

Annual Feline Leukemia and Feline AIDS Test

The American Academy of Feline Practitioners recommends that cats allowed outdoors unsupervised are tested regularly for feline leukemia (FeLV) and feline AIDS (FIV) viruses. These diseases are contagious and considered fatal. This test is also performed on new cats entering the home.

Regular prevention and control for internal and external parasites

Advantage Multi™ once per month

Advantage Multi prevents heartworm disease in cats. Many mosquitoes in Massachusetts are now carrying heartworm larvae. There is no cure for heartworm disease in cats and it **can cause sudden death**. Advantage Multi kills fleas. Fleas are very small and can fit through screens or can hitch a ride inside your home on a dog or human. Once inside they can lay eggs in upholstery and survive many life cycles if they have access to an unprotected pet. Advantage Multi used for an entire season will stop this life cycle. Fleas carry tapeworms, and in fact many cats get tapeworms from eating their fleas while grooming. Advantage Multi prevents hookworm and roundworm infections. Your cat can become infected with these by eating rodents, cockroaches and even bugs that have been eating rodent carcasses and then find their way into the house. These worms are **contagious to humans**, especially children and immuno-compromised adults. Advantage Multi also kills ear mites.

Regular oral care: Tooth brushing and Hills T/D diet

Your cat will live longer, have fewer problems, and may not have to have costly dental procedures if you can maintain excellent oral health in his or her mouth. Ideally, you would brush your cat's teeth every day. For many cats, this can be difficult. We recommend the regular use of several kibbles of Hill's t/d diet given as a treat for your cat to prevent dental disease.

Due to the increasing costs of veterinary products and technology, our prices are subject to change.