

The Golden Years



Caring for your Senior Pet

Dr. Eisenhauer

Who counts as a senior?

Common Rule of Thumb: Multiply the age of your pet (in human years) by 7 = age of your pet in dog/cat years.

Who counts as a senior?



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A Dog's Age in Human Years				
Canine Age	Up to 20lbs	21-50lbs	51-90lbs	Over 90lbs
	Human Years			
1	18	16	15	14
2	24	22	20	19
3	28	28	30	32
4	32	33	35	37
5	36	37	40	42
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	
18	88	96	109	
19	92	101	115	
20	96	105	120	

Senior Dog



Geriatric Dog



Chart developed by Dr Fred Metzger, DVM, State College, Pennsylvania.

www.dog-care-knowledge.com

Who counts as a senior?

FELINE AGE	0-20 lbs
1	7
2	13
3	20
4	26
5	33
6	40
7	44
8	48
9	52
10	56
11	60
12	64
13	68
14	72
15	76
16	80
17	84
18	88
19	92
20	96
21	100
22	104
23	108
24	112
25	116

Fun Senior Fact:

*Charts courtesy of Fred Metzger, DVM,
DABVP, University of Pennsylvania*

What is special about Seniors?

GOALS OF THE SEMINAR

- 1) Learn to identify symptoms and signs to look for that may be early indicators of disease in aging pets.
- 2) Talk about changing nutritional needs of senior animals.
- 3) Discuss ways to identify and manage arthritis in senior dogs and cats.
- 4) Learn the signs of senility and declining cognitive function in senior animals, and what we can do to help it.
- 5) Tips on how to make life easier for the senior pets we share our lives with.

Celebrate our Seniors!

Helo, 7 years



Common Conditions in Senior Pets

Eyes

Nuclear Sclerosis

Cataract

Dry Eye

Glaucoma

Blindness

Oral Health

85% of Dogs and Cats over 6 years of age have some form of dental disease!

Periodontal disease

Gingivitis

Masses

Heart and Lungs

- Heart disease
- Pneumonia
- Bronchitis

Internal Organs

- Kidney Disease
- Liver disease
- Diabetes mellitus
- Thyroid Problems
- Adrenal Gland Problems – Cushing's and Addison's
- Inflammatory Bowel Disease
- Colitis

Skin

Lumps

Bleeding or Irritated Skin

Masses

Musculoskeletal

- Arthritis
- Hip Dysplasia + Degenerative Joint Disease
- Muscle Loss
- Back Problems

- More on this later....

When to Call the Vet's Office?

If you start to notice your pet is...

- Interacting less with family and familiar friends
- Responding less often or less enthusiastically
- Showing changes in activity level
- Having difficulty climbing stairs or jumping
- Limping, or acting stiff more of the time
- Drinking and/or urinating more often
- Changing it's eating patterns
- Showing noticeable weight gain or weight loss
- Losing housetraining - accidents in the house outside of the litter box
- Changing sleeping patterns, becoming confused or disoriented
- Having bad breath and/or swollen gums
- Found to have new lumps, bumps, or changes in the skin and coat
- Showing tremors or shaking



