

Wellbeing for your cat – What to look out for

Age comparison of cats in human years:

	Cat
Age	0-10kg
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

Chart courtesy of Fred L. Metzger DVM DABVP

Top 10 signs your cat may be ill are:

1. Bad breath or drooling
2. Excessive drinking or urination
3. Appetite change associated with weight loss or gain
4. Change in activity level (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 behaviour and attitude changes
7. Coughing, sneezing, excessive panting, or laboured breathing
8. Dry or itchy skin, sores, lumps or shaking head
9. Frequent digestive upsets or change in bowel movements
10. Dry, red, or cloudy eyes

Risks of disease and what we can do to help diagnose the disease at Vet HQ:

Organ/system	Potential health risks	Results if not treated	Tests used to detect
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			disease at Vet HQ
Teeth and mouth	Gingivitis, periodontitis	Tooth root abscess, tooth loss, kidney and heart disease,	Examination Anaesthetic and dental check including xrays dietary advice
Nose and throat	Infection, inflammation, bleeding, cancer	Progression of disease	Palpation, xray and ultrasound, needle biopsy, endoscopy, blood profiles
Liver and Gall bladder	Inflammation, infection, cancer, cushings disease, gall bladder disease,	Jaundice, liver failure, anaemia, bleeding,	Blood tests, ultrasounds, xray, surgical biopsy, dietary advice
Heart and lungs	Heart disease, leaking valves, irregular rhythm, heartworm disease, bronchitis, asthma, pneumonia	Heart failure, pneumonia, death	Listening including digital stethoscope, xrays, cardiac ultrasound, ECG, Blood pressure
Joints and bones	Arthritis, cruciate ligament disease, hip dysplasia, infection, back disease and slipped disc	Pain, arthritis, paralysis	Xray, preventative medicine, dietary advice,
Glands/ endocrine	Diabetes, thyroid, adrenal disease	Cataracts, skin issues, skin infection, drinking more and urinating more	Blood tests, urination, ultrasound, biopsy
Eyes and vision	Corneal ulcers, cataracts, dry eye, glaucoma, eyelid tumors and deformation	Pain, blindness, loss of eye	Treat superficial disease, measure intraocular pressure, surgical correction of deformation
Digestive/ gastro issues	Intestinal parasites, blockage, infection, inflammatory bowel disease (IBD/IBS) pancreatitis cancer	Malnutrition, diarrhoea, flatulence, abdominal pain, death	Faecal analysis, xray, ultrasound, surgery, hospital support, biopsy
Skin	Allergies, fleas, ticks, lumps, infection, ear infections	Hair loss, foul odour, hearing loss, cancer progression	Appropriate treatment (and follow up) medicated baths, biopsy, surgery