

## The benefits of senior wellness testing

### 1. Comparing baseline values

Comparing current values to baseline values established earlier in your pet's life will help identify subtle changes to your pet's health.

### 2. Identify unseen disease at an early stage

Identifying disease before clinical signs are evident increases the likelihood of a successful outcome and can often lessen the cost of treatment.

### 3. Medications

Many senior pets require medications for common age-related illnesses. A blood profile can help avoid using medications that may be unsafe for a pet's medical condition or health status.

### 4. Anesthesia

Senior pets often require anesthesia more frequently than younger pets as common problems including dental disease and skin growth/tumors are more common.

Blood testing is a vital part of proper pre-anesthetic evaluation in all pets, especially older ones.

Age	0-20 lbs	21-50 lbs	51-90 lbs	>90 lbs
8 months	13-16	13-16	13-16	13-16
2	24	24	24	24
3	28	28	29	32
4	32	33	34	38
5	36	37	38	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	

## My next appointment

Pet: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Doctor: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for Appointment: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

ON-SITE DIAGNOSTICS PERFORMED HERE.  
RESULTS IN MINUTES.



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# Senior Wellness Testing 5

A pet owner's guide to preventative medicine

**B**ecause of the special needs of senior pets and how quickly they age, it is important that these special family members receive complete physical examinations at least twice yearly. The need for vaccinations become less important than the need for complete health screening and evaluations of the internal organs as well as the eyes, ears and skin. Blood testing is one of the best methods to identify medical conditions not able to be identified through history and examination. Disease states can be identified and treated faster with a better outcome. If all tests are normal, then you have piece of mind that your pet is healthy.

## Testing recommendations

Testing recommendations are made based on your pet's breed, age or history. These may include:

**Level 1\***  
Chemistry Panel  
Complete Blood Count

**Level 2\***  
Chemistry Panel  
Complete Blood Count  
Urinalysis

**Level 3\***  
Chemistry Panel  
Complete Blood Count  
Urinalysis  
Thyroid Testing  
Blood Pressure  
Electrocardiogram



Wellness Testing Recommendations (non-surgical):  
Twice Yearly Physical Examinations, Yearly Heartworm Testing (dogs),  
Twice Yearly Fecal Examinations.



## Senior health issues

As pets age, organ systems often begin to fail, possibly due to factors such as genetics or environment. Often the exact cause of age related illness is not determined. There are many common disease states that occur in our senior pets. These can be effectively treated and monitored with early diagnosis and include:

- Kidney Disease
- Liver Disease
- Heart Disease
- Dental Disease
- Cancers
- Endocrine Disease - Thyroid, Diabetes and Adrenal Gland Disease
- Intestinal - Inflammatory bowel disease and colitis

## Affordable wellness

Chemistry and hematology blood tests provide a detailed look at your pet's health from the inside. While a physical examination is vital to your pet's health care, there are many conditions that cannot be diagnosed by looking, listening and touching. We can tell you a lot about your pet's health through quick, simple and affordable chemistry and hematology blood tests. Chemistry and electrolyte blood tests provide useful indicators of the health and function of your pet's organ systems and fluid balance.

Hematology blood tests provide a detailed look at blood cells. Red Blood Cells (RBCs) provide information regarding oxygen-carrying ability, while White Blood Cells (WBCs) provide information about your pet's immune system and overall health. Platelets (PLTs) play an important role by controlling the rate at which blood clots. All of these values can be affected by many different diseases and infections.

We use a VetScan® state-of-the-art, in-clinic laboratory system to evaluate your pet's overall health allowing us to provide you with immediate results and diagnosis.

## Chemistry blood tests

**Alanine Aminotransferase (ALT)**  
Increased levels of this enzyme maybe a sign of liver damage or disease. ●

**Albumin (ALB)**  
Most important protein in the body. Low levels indicate such things as liver, kidney or intestinal disease. ●●●

### Alkaline Phosphatase (ALP)

Elevations can indicate liver swelling or decreased bile flow caused by liver disease or endocrine disorders such as thyroid disease, diabetes, Cushing's Disease or Addison's Disease and may also be an indicator of certain bone disease. ●●

### Amylase (AMY)

Amylase is an enzyme produced to help digest food. Elevated levels can indicate disease of the pancreas, intestines or kidney. ●●●

### Bile Acids (BA)

Bile acids are one of the best measures of liver function and are vital in identifying and monitoring liver disease, as well as when taking medication that may affect the liver. ●

### Blood Urea Nitrogen (BUN)

BUN is made in the liver and removed from the body by the kidneys. It helps us evaluate both of these organs. ●●

### Calcium (Ca)

Important to monitor for early signs of certain cancers. Imbalanced calcium and phosphorus levels are indicative of certain metabolic diseases such as those of the parathyroid gland and kidney disease. ●●

### Electrolytes (Na<sup>+</sup>, K<sup>+</sup>)

Critical to your pet's health. Potassium levels are important in the diagnosis and treatment of several life threatening diseases. Normal sodium balance is important for total body function and calcium levels can help indicate certain cancers.

### Cholesterol (CHOL)

Elevated levels may be an indication of a variety of disorders including hypothyroidism in dogs, liver and kidney disease. ●●●

### Creatinine (CRE)

An important value to monitor kidney function. ●

### Globulin (GLOB)

A body protein that indicates problems such as inflammation or infection.

### Glucose (GLU)

Elevated levels can indicate problems such as diabetes. Low levels can be associated with liver disease or other issues. ●

### Thyroxine Test (T4)

An excellent screening test for function of the thyroid gland in dogs and cats. The thyroid glands play a major role in metabolism. ●

### Total Protein (TP)

We utilize this value to determine many conditions such as anemia and disease of the liver, kidney and gastrointestinal tract. ●●●

### Total Bilirubin (TBIL)

An important value to evaluate the liver and when there is a low red blood cell count. ●

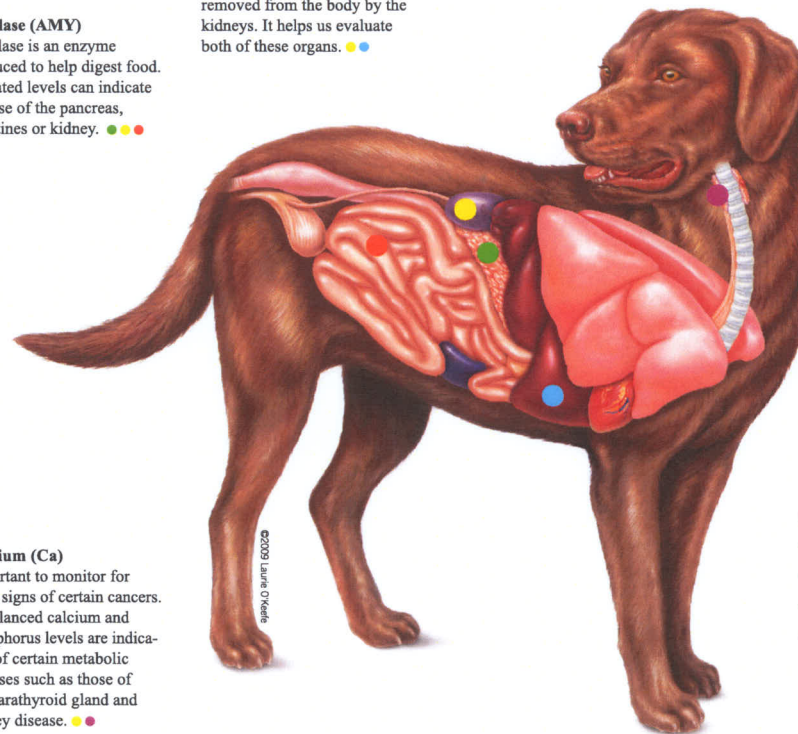
## Hematology blood tests

**The Complete Blood Count (CBC)** is a test that provides measurements of red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets. The CBC is an important tool that can detect conditions such as anemia, leukemia and other blood disorders as well as assess stress levels, inflammation, infection and blood clotting capabilities.

### CBC Components

**Red Blood Cells (RBCs)** carry oxygen to the tissues of the body and remove carbon dioxide to be exhaled from the lungs. Anemia results when RBCs are not present in sufficient numbers. Determination of the cause of anemia is vital.

**White Blood Cells (WBCs)** play a major role in your pet's immune system function. Normal baseline levels are crucial to determine the importance of changes seen with infection or inflammation. Elevations noted without signs or symptoms can help us treat your pet more effectively.



- pancreas
- kidney
- intestine
- liver
- thyroid

### Gamma Glutamyl Transferase (GGT)

Measurement and monitoring is important for differentiating types of liver disease. ●

### Phosphorus (PHOS)

Important to monitor for kidney disease as well as its balance with calcium to monitor many conditions. ●

