



Your pet's health check

WHY ARE REGULAR VETERINARY APPOINTMENTS IMPORTANT?

- Firstly, since pets can't talk, it is important to have them regularly checked to make sure nothing is wrong.
- Secondly, pets age a lot faster than we do, so it is imperative that they have regular checkups to make sure they stay healthy.
- For most pets this might be a once-a-year checkup, but for pets that have health issues and older pets, health checks may be recommended more regularly.

WHAT WILL THE VETERINARIAN CHECK FOR?

- Ensure your pet is a healthy weight
- Discuss appropriate nutrition and diets for your pet
- Check areas you might not be able to check easily yourself such as, ears, eyes, and mouth
- Fecal exam – to check for intestinal parasites
- Perform blood tests to detect illness or heartworm
- Listen to the heart
- Examine skin and nails
- Assess the need for vaccinations
- As your dog ages, other procedures may be added:
- Assess mobility, stiffness, joint pain or arthritis
- Checking hearing and sight
- Check for signs of cancer
- Blood and urine test to look for any organ dysfunction

PREVENTATIVE MEDICINE

- Preventative medicine is the best medicine. Your veterinarian will want to know if your pet is currently receiving any medications.
- Your veterinarian may discuss measures to minimize the risk of disease. These may include:
 - Heartworm
 - Deworming
 - Fleas
 - Vaccination
 - Tick control

