

## **Animal Medical Center of Plano**

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### **Senior Wellness Exams For Your Pet**

The doctors at Animal Medical Center sincerely believe in the importance of preventative care in extending the lives of our patients. When they are younger, this involves annual exams, vaccinations as necessary, and fecal and blood tests for intestinal parasites and heartworms.

Once your pet (our patient) reaches the age of about 8 years, he or she is considered a "senior" pet. In a small dog, this is equivalent to about 50 human years, and in a large dog it's closer to 60 human years. An 8 year old cat is around 55 human years.

As our pets age, they are affected by many of the same ailments that affect people: kidney, heart, liver disease, tumors, cancer, diabetes, etc. The difference is that they cannot speak to us when they start feeling ill, and without intervention, they can deteriorate to a point where medical treatment is unsuccessful.

We feel very strongly that early detection of many of these diseases can lead to significant improvements in the life span and quality of life of your pet.

For all pets over the age of 8 years of age, the doctors at Animal Medical Center of Plano strongly recommend a complete physical exam at least yearly (and maybe twice yearly for some patients) and "Senior Wellness" blood panel in addition to the required vaccinations. The senior panel is a comprehensive blood and urine analysis that helps provide early disease detection. This gives us a baseline for your pet and is crucial in helping us diagnose systemic disease early so we can intervene and hopefully give your pet a long, happy life.

**Yes**, I'm interested in a Senior Wellness Panel for my pet. This includes a complete blood chemistry, thyroid, complete blood cell count and urinalysis.

**No**, thanks.