

# FOUR LIFE STAGES

## It's a CAT's life

### First quarter of life

#### CHARACTERISTICS

Curious, bouncy, inquisitive, playful

#### PRONE TO

Likely to get injured doing something silly or chewing on string!

HEALTH ALERTS ● ● ● ●



### Young adult

#### CHARACTERISTICS

Energetic, thriving, keen to learn and play

#### PRONE TO

Likely to get injured doing something athletic or taking on road traffic!

HEALTH ALERTS ● ●



### Mid life

#### CHARACTERISTICS

Sensible and steady

#### PRONE TO

Likely to get early 'wear-n-tear' disease like early heart valve disease, possibly kidney disease

HEALTH ALERTS ● ● ● ●



### Old age

#### CHARACTERISTICS

Experienced, independent, doddery, sometimes grumpy

#### PRONE TO

Likely to get wear and tear diseases such as over active thyroids, renal failure, heart disease, diabetes

HEALTH ALERTS ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●



#### KEY

- Emergency – bloated stomach and persistent retching
- Bleeding and serious impact injury
- Not eating for more than 48 hours
- Vomiting for more than a day
- Diarrhoea for more than a day
- Excessive thirst
- Limping
- Scratching

#### ILLNESSES AND SIGNS

- Stiff on rising – arthritis
- Excessive thirst – diabetes, kidneys, liver, thyroid
- More lethargic – many major organs; heart kidneys, arthritis
- Less willing to run and play; many major organs; heart kidneys, arthritis
- Loss of muscle mass and muscle tone; age and lack of exercise due to other illnesses listed (especially diabetes)
- Hair thinning and scabs – allergy dermatitis – especially to flea saliva
- Struggling to balance, Circling, Head tilt, Flicking eye movements, Vomiting – inner ear disease

NB: Please don't self diagnose your pet. So many conditions with chronic diseases look so similar they require laboratory or diagnostic tests to differentiate them and the treatments are dramatically different. If your pet shows any of the following signs, make an appointment with your vet as soon as possible.

## A DOG's life rules

### First quarter of life

#### CHARACTERISTICS

Curious, bouncy, inquisitive, playful

#### PRONE TO

Likely to get injured doing something!

HEALTH ALERTS ● ● ● ●



### Young adult

#### CHARACTERISTICS

Energetic, thriving, keen to learn and play

#### PRONE TO

Likely to get injured doing something athletic or becoming allergic

HEALTH ALERTS ● ●



### Mid life

#### CHARACTERISTICS

Sensible, steady, obedient and loyal

#### PRONE TO

Likely to get early 'wear-n-tear' disease as well as early arthritis and early heart valve disease

HEALTH ALERTS ● ● ● ●



### Old age

#### CHARACTERISTICS

Experienced, independent, doddery, sometimes grumpy

#### PRONE TO

Likely to get wear and tear diseases such as arthritis, renal failure, heart disease

HEALTH ALERTS ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●



#### KEY

- Emergency – bloated stomach and persistent retching
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#### ILLNESSES AND SIGNS

- Stiff on rising – arthritis
- Excessive thirst – diabetes, kidneys, liver, thyroid
- More lethargic – many major organs; heart kidneys, arthritis
- Less willing to run and play; many major organs; heart kidneys, arthritis
- More forgetful – brain and senility
- Loss of muscle mass and muscle tone; age and lack of exercise due to other illnesses listed (especially diabetes)
- Hair thinning/greying – age
- Struggling to balance, Circling, Head tilt, Flicking eye movements, Vomiting – stroke

NB: Please don't self diagnose your pet. So many conditions with chronic diseases look so similar they require laboratory or diagnostic tests to differentiate them and the treatments are dramatically different. If your pet shows any of the following signs, make an appointment with your vet as soon as possible.