

# Wellness Health Screens

## Why does a pet need a "wellness exam"?

- ◆ Pets mature at a faster rate compared to humans: by age two most dogs and cats have reached adulthood and by age seven, many are entering senior years.
- ◆ Many times pets can't tell us they're not healthy and can hide symptoms.
- ◆ Because pets age so rapidly, major health changes can occur in a very short period of time.
- ◆ Twice yearly exams gives us a better opportunity for early disease diagnosis and intervention.
- ◆ We are able to develop a "Risk Assessment" to identify disease threats based on life stage, environment, and age.
- ◆ We will "Personalize Disease Prevention Goals" to include:
  - Recognition of aging changes and possible disease signs and symptoms
  - Vaccine protocols
  - Dental health status
  - Nutritional recommendations
  - Ecto/endo parasite control
  - Diagnostic blood panels
  - Zoonotic potentials

## Senior Wellness Programs

### Expected Aging Changes

- ✓ **Sleeping more**
- ✓ **Graying coat, esp around the mouth and eyes**
- ✓ **Dental & gum disease (veterinary care required)**
- ✓ **Deterioration of hearing and vision**
- ✓ **Joint inflammation & discomfort (arthritis)**
- ✓ **Muscle shrinkage and body weakness**
- ✓ **Decreased skin elasticity**

### When is my pet considered a senior?

**Pets of seven years and older are candidates, however, there is no set age your pet officially becomes a "senior", the aging process is influenced by breed genetics and metabolism.**

### How does a senior health screen differ from a normal exam?

- ✓ **More in-depth laboratory analysis**
- ✓ **More in-depth diagnostics to detect subclinical disease**