

## The Golden Paw Program

Pets play a vital role in our lives. The unconditional love and companionship our pets provide help us better deal with the stress of our own busy lives and maybe even make us better people. Our Golden Paw Program was developed with this bond in mind. We would like to see you enjoy your pet, and your pet you, for as long as possible.

The Golden Paw Program gives your veterinarian valuable insight into your senior pet's health status. Most Golden Paw evaluations show older dogs to be in excellent health, but if not, early detection of any problems is the first step in developing specific and effective therapies.

### THE PHYSICAL EXAM

Patients enrolled in the Golden Paw Program receive a complete physical evaluation by the doctor which includes assessment of the following systems.

- Mental status
- Hydration
- Mucous membrane
- Lymph nodes
- Heart
- Skin
- Ears
- Muscles
- Body condition
- Oral cavity
- Teeth/gum
- Abdomen
- Lungs
- Eyes
- Nerves
- Joints

Close evaluation of these systems is vitally important because many medical diagnoses are made from findings on the physical exam.

## ORGAN SYSTEMS AND METABOLIC SCREEN

### Full blood chemistry panel

This helps us rule out major organ system and/or metabolic illnesses.

### Thyroid hormone level

Low thyroid function is common in older dogs.

### Complete blood cell count

This test checks for anemia and other blood cell problems.

### Urinalysis

Urine evaluation gives us valuable information about the kidneys and urinary tract.

### Urine culture

Bladder infections are common in older pets and pets don't always show outward signs of the infection.

### Screen for urinary protein loss

This test can alert us to emerging problems in the kidneys as well as other systems of the body.

## FOLLOW-UP/ADDITIONAL CARE VOUCHER

In some Golden Paw cases there will be need for further evaluation, treatments or care. That's why we provide a \$50 voucher to each enrolled patient that can be used for up to 6 months. This can help defray costs for any additional care needed.

## WHAT IS MY DOG'S "HUMAN AGE EQUIVALENT?"

Find your dog's human age equivalent by first locating his or her actual age in the left hand column and then follow that row across to the right to the appropriate body weight column. This will be the age of your dog if he or she were human.

Age	0-20 lbs.	21-50 lbs.	51-90 lbs.	>90 lbs.
5	36	38	40	42
6	40	41	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	131
18	88	96	109	
19	92	101	115	
20	96	105	120	

Adult  
 Senior



Any of the symptoms below may indicate that your pet needs medical attention:

- Difficulty climbing stairs
- Difficulty jumping up
- Increased stiffness or limping
- Increased thirst
- Increased urination
- Noticeable increase or decrease in weight
- Loss of house training
- Change in hair, coat, or skin
- New lumps or bumps
- Itching
- Bad breath, swollen gums
- Change in behavior
- Change in activity levels
- Just not the same: change in attitude

You know your pet the best and see him or her on a regular basis; your observations can truly help us to provide the best possible care for your senior pet.

The Golden Paw Program is not a medical insurance policy. Instead it is a package of tests and evaluations, recommended at least annually, to help us better evaluate your pet's health. In some cases we may need to recommend additional tests. These additional tests are not covered by the Golden Paw Program, but you may use your Well Senior program voucher for these services.



## Redwood Veterinary Hospital's Well Senior GOLDEN PAWS PROGRAM

For Dogs



731 Admiral Callaghan Lane  
Vallejo, CA 94591  
(707) 553-1400