



# Senior dog consultation questionnaire

## When is a dog considered senior?

Our canine companions have a relatively short lifespan compared to humans and therefore the ageing process can progress quite rapidly. A dog or dog is considered senior from 8 years of age.

## Why does my dog need a “Senior Consult”?

There can be changes taking place inside your dog that are not always evident from the outside. This is particularly the case with older dogs. The “Senior Consult” has been designed to detect these changes and the onset of disease early. Many senior problems are manageable if they are diagnosed early, often prolonging the life and wellbeing of senior dogs.

During our senior pet consultations we find that approximately 50% of the animals examined have early indicators of disease on their physical examination or blood test. Significantly, only a few of the owners have noticed that something is wrong with their pet.

## What does a “Senior Consult” involve?

Your dog will receive a full physical examination by the veterinarian. Some blood will be taken and tested in-house. If a urine sample is obtainable, this will also be tested.

## What happens after the samples have been collected?

The blood and urine will be tested in-house and you will be notified of the results within 48 hours. These tests provide an overall assessment of your dog’s health including liver and kidney function. Your dog’s veterinarian will then advise you of any subsequent treatment plan, including dietary changes and/or medication.

## What to do now?

Phone the clinic on 55616911 to make an appointment and fill out the following questionnaire prior to the consultation. Bring the completed questionnaire with you to your appointment.

Client Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Dog Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Tick all that apply to your dog

### Behavioural/neurological

- Confusion or disorientation .
- Less interaction with the family .
- Changes in sleep pattern .
- Loss of housetraining .
- Circling or repetitive movements
- Barking or howling for no reason
- Hearing loss
- Poor vision

### Mobility Heart/Lungs

- Changes in activity level. Excessive panting
- Lags behind on walks. Coughing
- Difficulty climbing stairs. Tires easily/short of breath
- Seems stiff especially after lying down
- Lameness
- Signs of pain

### Body Functions

- Bad breath or red swollen gums
- Difficulty chewing
- Increased appetite
- Decreased appetite
- Gained weight
- Lost weight
- Increased thirst
- Increased urination
- Vomiting
- Change in stools
- Constipation

### Skin and Coat

- Scratches, licks and chews excessively
- Changes in coat or skin
- Lumps or bumps

### Heart and Lungs

- Excessive panting
- Coughing
- Tires easily/short of breath

The name and brand of food I feed my dog is

\_\_\_\_\_