

# Behavior screen for older dogs and cats

Please complete this form to give our team important information about your pet.

## 1. Locomotory/ ambulatory assessment

(check one)

- No alterations or debilities noted
- Modest slowness associated with change from youth to adult
- Moderate slowness associated with geriatric aging
- Moderate slowness associated with geriatric aging plus alteration or debility in gait
- Moderate slowness associated with geriatric aging plus some loss of function (e.g., cannot climb stairs)
- Severe slowness associated with extreme loss of function, particularly on slick surfaces (may need to be carried)
- Severe slowness, extreme loss of function, and decreased willingness or interest in moving (spends most of time in bed)
- Paralyzed or refuses to move

## 2. Appetite assessment

(check all that apply)

- No alterations in appetite
- Change in ability to physically handle food
- Change in ability to retain food (vomits or regurgitates)
- Change in ability to find food
- Change in interest in food (may be olfactory)
- Change in rate of eating
- Change in completion of eating

- Change in timing of eating
- Change in preferred textures

## 3. Assessment of elimination function

(check one in each category)

### a. Changes in frequency and "accidents"

- No change in frequency, no "accidents"
- Increased frequency, no "accidents"
- Decreased frequency, no "accidents"
- Increased frequency with "accidents"
- Decreased frequency with "accidents"

- No change in frequency, but "accidents"

### b. Bladder control

- Leaks urine when asleep
- Leaks urine when awake
- Leaks urine when awake or asleep
- Full-stream, uncontrolled urination when asleep
- Full-stream, uncontrolled urination when awake
- Full-stream, uncontrolled urination when awake or asleep
- No leakage or uncontrolled urination, all urination controlled, but in inappropriate or undesirable location
- No change in urination control or behavior



**c. Bowel control**

- Defecates when asleep
- Defecates without apparent awareness
- Defecates when awake and aware of action, but in inappropriate or undesirable locations
- No changes in bowel control

**4. Visual acuity: How well do you think the dog or cat sees?**

(check one)

- No change in visual acuity detected by behavior, appears to see as well as ever
- Some change in acuity not dependent on ambient light conditions.
- Some change in acuity dependent on ambient light conditions
- Extreme change in acuity not dependent on ambient light conditions
- Extreme change in acuity dependent on ambient light conditions
- Blind

**5. Auditory acuity: How well do you think the dog or cat hears?**

(check one)

- No apparent change in auditory acuity
- Some hearing loss
- Extreme hearing loss
- Deaf

**6. Play interactions: If the dog or cat plays with toys, which situation best describes that play?**

(check one)

- No change in play with toys
- Slightly decreased interest in toys
- Slightly decreased ability to play with toys

- Slightly decreased interest and ability to play with toys
- Extreme decreased interest in toys
- Extreme decreased ability to play with toys
- Extreme decreased interest and ability to play with toys

**7. Interactions with people: Which situation best describes that interaction?**

(check one)

- No change in interaction with people
- Recognizes people but slightly decreased frequency of interaction
- Recognizes people but greatly decreased frequency of interaction
- Withdrawal but recognizes people
- Does not recognize people

**8. Interactions with other pets: Which situation best describes that interaction?**

(check one)

- No change in interaction with other pets
- Recognizes other pets but slightly decreased frequency of interaction
- Recognizes other pets but greatly decreased frequency of interaction
- Withdrawal but recognizes other pets
- Does not recognize other pets
- No other pets or animal companions in house or social environment

**9. Changes in sleep-wake cycle**

(check one)

- No changes in sleep patterns
- Sleeps more during the day
- Some change, awakens at night and sleeps more during the day
- Much change, profoundly erratic nocturnal pattern and irregular

daytime pattern

- Sleeps virtually all day, awake occasionally at night
- Sleeps almost around the clock

