

Prescription Medications

Testing helps us choose the right medication - monitoring helps ensure lasting effectiveness.

How you can make sure your pet responds well to medication

In human medicine, medications play an important role in health care, as long as the correct dose is given and side effects are carefully monitored by a physician.

The same is true for animals. We want to make sure your pet's prescribed medication is truly helping - not causing any side effects. That's why we recommend testing.

We'll test your pet:

- **before prescribing a medication** to be sure organ function is normal and the prescription is right for your pet's age, breed, size and physical condition.
- **after we've begun treatment** so we can monitor response and uncover any hidden reactions. Should a problem arise, we can alter the treatment plan immediately.
- **periodically during treatment**, as recommended by pharmaceutical manufacturers, to make sure continued use of a medicine has not triggered any adverse reactions.

Hidden health problems

We may screen for some of the following conditions in determining your pet's health status.

LIVER

Biochemistry tests can indicate:

- Liver disease - Cushing's disease - Abnormalities resulting from long-term medications

HEART

Immunoassay tests can indicate **heartworm disease**.

THYROID

Biochemistry and T4 tests can indicate **hypothyroidism or hyperthyroidism**.

TEETH

Dental exams uncover **mouth infections which can cause problems with vital organs**.

BLOOD

CBC/Hematocrit are used to screen for:

- Infection - Leukemia - Anemia (low red blood cells)

KIDNEY

Biochemistry tests can indicate:

- Kidney disease - Renal failure - Abnormalities resulting from long-term medications.

PANCREAS

Biochemistry tests can indicate:

- Pancreatitis - Diabetes melitus - Abnormalities resulting from long-term medications.

The top 4 reasons to monitor your pet's medications

- **Your pet deserves the best care.** We monitor your pet's health to ensure greater success in treating a condition. We can test your pet in just a few minutes, and you'll have answers during your visit.
- **Monitoring your pet helps us prescribe the proper medication** for your pet's age, size, breed and physical condition.
- **Pharmaceutical manufacturers recommend monitoring.** Monitoring schedules ensure safe medication administration, guiding us as we evaluate your pet for any side effects, potential complications and/or interactions with other drugs.

Monitoring helps us establish a baseline picture of your pet's vital organs, so we know when changes indicate areas of concern. This helps us evaluate the treatment plan and make adjustments as necessary.

Let's help your pet feel better by following pharmaceutical manufacturers' guidelines.

With your good care, our treatment recommendations and the prescribed medication, we are working to restore your pet's health. For the best outcome, we follow pharmaceutical manufacturers' recommendations and guidelines for each of the medications we prescribe. And, because we know your pet's medical history better than anyone, you can trust us to provide safe medications that ensure your pet's well-being.