



# Adult Domestic Cat

*Domestic cats are playful, independent and faithful. You should also know they can be predisposed to the following ailments. Examinations twice a year and routine diagnostics to catch problems early, when they are easiest to treat, are recommended for the life of your cat.*

## Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy

### Description

This is a condition that involves a thickening of the muscle of the heart leading to severe compromise in heart function. There appears to be some genetic factors that may influence susceptibility to the disease. Males appear to be predisposed to the condition.

### Early Detection

**Recommended:** Thoracic radiographs (chest X-rays and echocardiography [an ultrasound examination of the heart]). It is particularly important to run these tests prior to anesthesia.

### Why Needed

Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy can result in significant cardiovascular disease including heart failure and death.

## Polycystic Kidney Disease

### Description

Domestic cats are predisposed to polycystic kidney disease. This is a disorder that causes the functional tissues of the kidneys to be replaced by multiple cystic growths leading to kidney failure.

### Early Detection

Regular blood chemistry evaluation (especially noting trends in BUN [blood, urea, nitrogen] and creatinine elevations), regular urinalysis, and ultrasound if there are concerns about this disorder.

### Why Needed

Polycystic kidney disease can cause kidney failure.

## Cutaneous Asthenia

### Description

Also known as “Ehler-Danlos syndrome,” cutaneous asthenia is a genetic disorder causing the skin to be highly elastic and fragile. This results in significant risk of lacerations and injuries to the skin.

### Early Detection

Regular comprehensive physical examinations are the best method of early detection for cutaneous asthenia.

### Why Needed

**Cutaneous asthenia can cause:**

- Fragile skin and easily injured skin
- Significant injury to the skin
- Delayed wound healing from injury

## Lysosomal Storage Diseases

### Description

Multiple types of lysosomal storage diseases have been identified in the domestic cat breeds. These diseases cause neurologic and ophthalmic (eye) disorders.

### Early Detection

**Recommended:** Regular ophthalmic (eye) examination (including fundic examinations of the interior of the eye) and regular neurologic examination.

### Why Needed

**Lysosomal storage diseases can cause:**

- Progressive vision loss and blindness
- Neurologic dysfunction (ataxia [a form of cerebral palsy], seizures, unsteady gait, weakness, and dullness)

## Optimum Wellness Plans® and Domestic Cats Included in the Active Prevention Plan

- Comprehensive physical examinations
- Ophthalmic (eye) examination (including fundic examination of the interior of the eye)
- Annual urinalysis and bloodwork to check blood glucose levels, liver and kidney function
- Annual dental cleaning

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