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# Vets Love Pets!



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## PET OBESITY

Killing your pet with kindness

Obesity is one of the most common nutritional medical disorders affecting pets with approximately 24-40% of pets being classified as overweight. This can occur when calorie intake (food consumption) exceeds calorie expenditure (exercise and activity). Unfortunately obesity shortens the lifespan of our companion animals and contributes to many other diseases. With careful monitoring of their feeding habits, combined with an active life, your pet should lead a healthy and longer life.

### Below are some of the many diseases and problems that obesity can lead to:

- Diabetes mellitus
- Cardiac disease
- High blood pressure
- Joints suffer from excess wear and tear leading to arthritis, joint injuries, leg problems, cruciate ligament rupture and back ailments
- Excess weight can worsen osteoarthritis
- Tracheal collapse and respiratory problems (especially in hot weather & during exercise)
- Cancer
- Make animals prone to heatstroke, gastrointestinal disease, skin problems and reproductive disorders
- Overweight pets are more at risk during surgery
- Inability to groom and therefore unable to keep themselves clean
- Intolerance to exercise

### A few helpful hints for successful weight loss:

- *Reducing diets* - this is a special pet food high in fibre content and less concentrated in calories, allowing for larger portions and satisfying your pet's hunger
- Encourage mild to moderate exercise and increasing it progressively to support the weight loss.
- While on a weight loss program keep your pet under medical surveillance by visiting your veterinarian every 3 or 4 weeks. Do not feed your pet anything besides the reducing diet while on the program.....especially not treats.



### Other contributing factors that can lead to obesity:

- Hypothyroidism (a decrease in thyroid hormone levels which causes the body to "slow down" due to a lower metabolic rate)
- Heart Disease - this will tire your pets easily which can lead to an intolerance to exercise
- Untreated arthritis - sore or stiff joints will also lead to an intolerance of exercise

### What can I do for my overweight pet?

If your pet's excess weight is affecting their health then please talk to our animal health technologists about the Hills "Heart" program. This weight loss program is designed for both cats and dogs and offers information and advice on nutrition (food) and exercise. The "Heart" program will assist you in recognizing the health benefits of ideal weight. We will also help you step-by-step through the weight loss program and well into the post slimming phase with consistent monitoring and advice. The "Heart" program contains an appropriate food selection for your individual pet and we will customize an individual weight loss plan for your pet. We are pleased to offer this "Heart" program as a complimentary service to clients of Tudor Glen Veterinary Hospital so please speak to one of our veterinary team who can explain the benefits in further detail.

[www.tudorglenvethospital.ca](http://www.tudorglenvethospital.ca)

## THE IMPORTANCE OF BLOOD WORK & FLUIDS

We are often asked about the purpose of performing bloodwork and fluids when pets come in for surgery so we hope the following information will help explain both the reasons and benefits.

A simple blood test, carried out in our in-house lab, is performed prior to administering anaesthetic to highlight any medical problems that can not be detected by a routine examination. It is important to confirm that your pet's kidneys and liver will be able to breakdown the anaesthetic after the surgery as failure to do so will be fatal to your pet. In addition, platelets are checked to ensure that their blood is able to clot so that bleeding complications do not occur during surgery. Furthermore, both white and red blood cells are examined to identify any infections and anaemia. If any medical problems are highlighted as a result of the bloodwork then we may have to postpone surgery in order to treat your pet before they can undergo anaesthesia.

Similarly, fluids are administered during surgery to help combat dehydration, this helps your pet recover faster and smoother after surgery. If you have any questions concerning your pet's surgery our veterinary healthcare team are always on hand to help.

Petplan<sup>®</sup> Insurance



Petsecure  
pet health insurance

Pet Plan Insurance have recently changed their name to "Pet Secure". We were very excited to learn that they are now offering dental coverage for the first time.

For a full range of their pet insurance plans please visit their website [www.petsecure.com](http://www.petsecure.com)

## Complimentary Dental Consultations



Due to the success of our recent dental month campaign, Tudor Glen Veterinary Hospital is once again pleased to offer complimentary dental consultations. The consultation will include an oral exam, a demonstration on how to brush your pet's teeth, a discussion on nutrition and a bag of dental food. We do not charge for these consultations - it's our way of promoting pet dental awareness. To book a complimentary consultation, please talk to one of our veterinary health care team at: **780 458-6051**.

## Having trouble administering tablets?



I GAVE THE CAT HER MEDICINE...  
COULD YOU DRIVE ME TO THE  
HOSPITAL NOW?

If you've ever had difficulty giving your cat a tablet then our **BRAND NEW** "tablet introducers" are your new best friend! These have been imported from Europe and are designed specifically to help you administer a tablet. Simply put the tablet inside the pincers at the end of the device, place the "tablet introducer" into the back of the cheek and push gently. If you would like more information, or a demonstration on how to use these, our staff will be pleased to show you.



\$4.99 + GST

## Would you like a lasting Impression of your pet's paw print?

We can make an impression of your pet's paw (cats, dogs, birds, guinea pigs, hamsters, rabbits, ferrets and reptiles) providing you with a precious, one-of-a-kind keepsake as a lasting reminder of your pet.

These keepsakes are made from clay and come in a variety of colours for you to chose from, they can even be matched to the colour of your pet's fur! Speak to one of our veterinary staff for more information about having one of these made.

