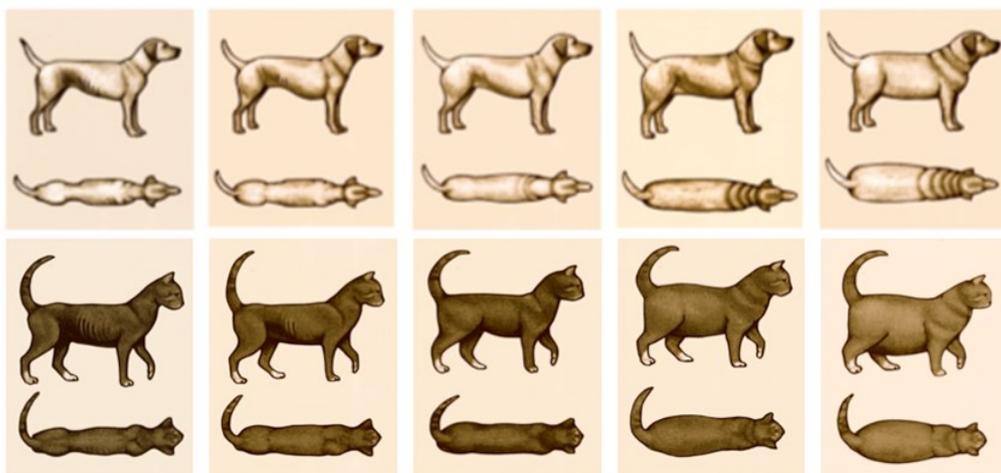




Gluttony: Our ever hungry pets

The first step to managing obesity is identifying that your pet is in fact overweight. How does your pet compare to the images below? The ideal weight is in the middle. You should be able to feel your pet's ribs under a small layer of fat. If your pet's shape is to either side of this, come in to see one of our nurses for a free weigh in and weight reduction plan.



How obesity impacts our pets:

Overweight pets live shorter lives. They are at higher risk of diabetes, arthritis, heart disease and many other ailments.

Some simple steps to weight control:

Exercise: Be it walking/running or playing tug of war. Exercise burns more calories

Feed: Extra treats and tidbits all add up. What may seem like a small treat to you can be half a meal for your pet! If you want to treat your dog, deduct it from its daily dinner allowance.

 **Dog Treat Translator** A cookie or a piece of cheese may seem like a little treat, but it's like a whole meal for dogs. Too many unhealthy snacks can add up fast!

 **Cat Treat Translator** A cup of milk or a piece of cheese may seem like a little treat, but it's like a whole meal for cats. Too many unhealthy snacks can add up fast!

Snacks & Scraps (as fed to a 20 lb dog)	Human Caloric Equivalent (average size woman)
 Just one little cookie =	
 1 oz piece of cheddar cheese =	
 One hot dog <small>(if used as training treats, cut into tiny pieces)</small> =	

Snacks & Scraps (as fed to a 10 lb cat)	Human Caloric Equivalent (average size woman)
 Just one potato chip =	
 1 oz piece of cheddar cheese =	
 One cup whole milk <small>(causes weight gain and upset tummy!)</small> =	

Pet Humour....

> Why did the dog cross the road twice?
He was trying to fetch a boomerang



> What is it called when a cat wins a dog show?
A CAT-HAS-TROPHY



> What did the cat say when it lost all its money?
I'm paw



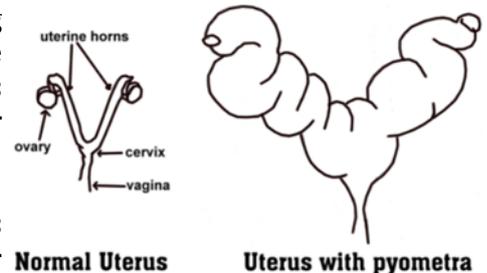
> What s a cat's favourite button on the TV remote?
Paws



Case of the month: Millie

Millie, an 8 year old Labrador cross was presented with a history of not eating for 2 days and being not quite herself. She has been drinking a lot more and going to the toilet frequently. She had not been spayed. When she was brought in, she had a sore stomach, was dehydrated and had a mild fever. An X-ray of her abdomen was taken. Her uterus was very enlarged. Millie was diagnosed with a pyometra.

A pyometra is a bacterial infection of the uterus. The uterine lining thickens and the uterus fills up with fluid. This fluid cannot be naturally flushed out by the body as the cervix is closed and prevents this. In some cases the cervix is open and fluid can come out, however it is never fully drained.



She was taken through for an emergency surgery the same day as this is a life threatening situation. She was put on IV antibiotics and under general anaesthetic. She was cut open and her uterus was removed. It was hugely enlarged and filled with pus. After that she was closed up again and allowed to wake up.

Her recovery was reasonably slow. It took a few days of syringe feeding, antibiotics and pain relief until she started eating again on her own. We kept her in over the weekend for monitoring. She went home the following Monday on 2 weeks of antibiotic tablets and restricted exercise until her stitches were due to come out.

Vaccinating your pet

Vaccination is a simple way to avoid common diseases. At the time of the vaccination consult we also give your pet a thorough health check-up and offer advice on worm control, feed and general health care. Vaccinations contain part of a bacteria/virus. This allows the body to build up immune cells against it without being damaged by the disease. As the body forgets these cells after a while, booster vaccinations are necessary.



Vaccines for dogs:

DHP: This protects against Canine Distemper Virus, Canine Adenovirus, (infectious canine hepatitis), Canine Parvovirus. Depending on your dog's age, it may need either 1, 2 or 3 initial injections followed by annual or biannual boosters.

Kennel cough: This is given in either an injectable form or an intranasal one. For the intranasal vaccine only 1 injection is required every year. For the injectable an initial injection followed by a booster 4 weeks later is required. Thereafter it is also given once yearly.

We also offer extra vaccinations for animals going abroad or leaving the South Island.

Vaccines for cats:

Tricat: This protects against Feline Panleucopaenia (or infectious enteritis), Feline Herpes Virus and Feline Calicivirus (both causes of "cat flu").

Ducat: This protects against Feline Herpes Virus and Feline Calicivirus. Usually we alter between Tricat and Ducat.

Fel O Vax: Vaccinates for FIV (feline AIDS). Kittens require 3 vaccines. 4 weeks apart. Cats over 6 months old require a blood test before vaccinating. Please call the clinic for more info.

Vaccines for rabbits:

Cylap RCD: Vaccinates against Calicivirus Disease. This causes fatal bleeding in rabbits. All pet rabbits should be vaccinated. This requires one yearly injection. Please ask the clinic about our allocated rabbit vaccination days



KENNINGTON CLINIC 11 CLAPHAM ROAD (03) 230 4689
EDENDALE CLINIC 14 SWEENEY STREET (03) 206 6170

