



## **Edgewood Veterinary Tips**

by Dr. Kristy McCamy

### **When Is My Dog a Senior Canine?**

You probably well remember when your puppy crossed into adulthood. He or she grew rapidly and lost that puppy look and those puppy habits. What about the transition from adult to senior dog? As a general rule, a dog that is 7 years old has crossed into it's senior years. Large breed dogs may be considered seniors even younger. You may notice a change in your dog's activity level and some weight gain. Older dogs are more susceptible to many diseases such as dental, heart and kidney diseases. They are also more likely to have diabetes, arthritis, and cancer. Talk with your veterinarian about what precautions you can take to care for your senior dog. Watch your senior dog for any physical or behavioral changes. We at Edgewood Veterinary Clinic Inc., recommend senior wellness visits twice a year in order to help identify a potential problem early in the disease process.

P.S. It's usually easier to treat a disease in its early stages.



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