

## Preparing for your Appointment

### Illness: Chronic

Your pet has been scheduled for a “Chronic Illness” checkup appointment. This means that your pet has been struggling with certain health issues for some time prior to seeing your Banfield Veterinarian for this issue. Your pet may have been treated before for this same or similar condition. Because it is likely that your Veterinarian will need to perform some diagnostic tests prior to be able to diagnose and treat your pet, there are a few Pre-Examination Considerations that may help you and your pet prepare for this examination.

#### GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

- A complete medical history is vital in assisting your Banfield veterinarian to answer key questions regarding the illness and, if appropriate, history of treatment and response to this treatment in the past.
- You may use this short questionnaire to assist you in gathering the most useful and appropriate information to share with your Veterinarian.
  - When did this condition first begin: \_\_\_\_\_
  - What did the condition look/act like when it first began? \_\_\_\_\_
  - Was the pet seen by a veterinarian at that time? \_\_\_\_\_
  - Was a diagnosis made? \_\_\_\_\_
  - Was treatment provided? \_\_\_\_\_
  - How effective was the treatment? \_\_\_\_\_
  - Do you have medical records for the Veterinarian to review?
    - If possible copies of relevant previous medical records should be brought to the examination and given to the Veterinarian. This information is very important to helping your Veterinarian build the medical picture in their head. It will also help the Dr to assess the severity and duration of the pet’s illness and the results of any testing that was performed previously.
  - Have you given your pet any drugs or treatments at home? \_\_\_\_\_
    - If yes, which treatments have been used? \_\_\_\_\_
- Often, when seeing a pet with a Chronic condition for the first time, your Banfield Veterinarian will need to repeat tests that may have been performed in the past. This is because our bodies, like our pets’ bodies are in a constant state of change. Results from tests yesterday can vary significantly from tests performed today.
- Unless otherwise directed by your Dr, please do not feed your pet for at least 2 hours prior to their appointment if possible. This way, if blood tests need to be performed, the blood sample is more likely to be of better quality.
- Also, if at all possible, do not allow your pet to urinate prior to coming into the Banfield Hospital. This will allow there to be a fair amount of urine in the bladder for urine testing if needed.
- ALWAYS CONTACT YOUR VETERINARIAN IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT PREPARING FOR THE APPOINTMENT.