



Adult Persian Cat

Persian cats are quiet, placid and unpretentious. 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

Persian 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.

Lysosomal Storage Diseases

Description

Multiple types of lysosomal storage diseases have been identified in the Persian cat. 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)

Idiopathic Facial Dermatitis

Description

Persian cats are predisposed to this skin disorder. This disorder causes protracted itching on the face, forehead and neck area of these cats. The cause is unknown but is believed to be an underlying nerve disorder.

Early Detection

Regular physical examination.

Why Needed

Idiopathic facial dermatitis can be associated with:

- Significant discomfort and pain
- Secondary skin infections and self-mutilation

Optimum Wellness Plans® and Persian 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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