



# Young Pit Bull

*Pit Bulls are a courageous, obedient and extremely loyal breed. 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 dog.*

## Mast Cell Tumors

### Description

Normal mast cells help your dog respond to inflammation and allergies. When they rapidly reproduce and become cancerous they produce lumps and can spread throughout the body. They can release normally safe chemicals in large doses that become dangerous. Early detection is vital as surgical removal can cure the cancer.

### Early Detection

**Recommended:** Recommended: comprehensive physical examinations twice a year. Also, fine needle aspirates of all masses or lumps to examine the cells.

### Why Needed

**Mast cell tumors can contribute to:**

- Gastric ulcers
- Internal bleeding
- Allergic type reactions
- Death

## Demodectic Mange (Demodex)

### Description

Demodex is a condition where mites live in the hair follicles of affected dogs. The dog's immune system has a defect that keeps him or her from keeping the mites under control.

### Early Detection

**Recommended:** comprehensive physical examinations twice a year, skin scrape if hair loss or other signs are present.

### Why Needed

**Demodex can contribute to:**

- Discomfort
- Dry, irritated skin
- Hair loss
- Skin lesions
- Secondary infections

## Anterior Cruciate Ligament (ACL) Tear

### Description

The cruciate ligaments are muscles that hold the knee joints together. If they get torn it is very painful and allows the knee joints to slide back and forth. This is the most common orthopedic injury in active dogs with a straight up and down hind leg structure.

### Early Detection

**Recommended:** orthopedic exams twice a year. Your veterinarian may also discuss weight management as a preventive measure.

### Why Needed

**An ACL Tear can contribute to:**

- Pain
- Arthritis
- Reduced mobility
- The need for surgery

## Optimum Wellness Plans® and Pit Bulls

### Included in the Essential Wellness Plan

- Orthopedic examinations twice a year\*

\*Part of the comprehensive examination

Plus the preventive care in each plan and 10% off on nearly all products and services

Consult your Banfield medical team for the best plan level for your individual pet.



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