

CLIENT ADULT WELLNESS INFORMATION SHEET

Maintaining the health of an adult pet is all about routine care and preventive maintenance. An adult dog is typically considered to be between 1 and 7 years old, while an adult cat is between 1 and 9 years old. This document serves as an informational piece only and is not intended to be used as a replacement for an exam by a veterinarian.

Here is RVC's Guide to Adult Wellness:



Regular Annual exams and Labs

Adult pets should be seen by a veterinarian once a year for a comprehensive annual exam. This typically includes: a physical exam, an oral exam, a heartworm test, annual vaccines, a fecal test and routine bloodwork.

These tests are critical for the early detection and prevention of life-threatening conditions.

- Fecal tests help identify intestinal parasites, which can cause significant harm if left untreated.
- Blood tests can reveal abnormal cell counts, organ dysfunction, and electrolyte imbalances, even before symptoms appear.



Annual Dental Cleanings

Adult pets should be scheduled for a dental cleaning once a year. This procedure includes a thorough cleaning and full-mouth X-rays. If any teeth are found to be damaged or diseased, extractions may be necessary. Pets who receive regular dental cleanings are less likely to need extractions or extensive dental work in the future.

Dental cleanings are essential for preventing life-threatening conditions, including heart disease, kidney disease, liver disease, and periodontal disease. They also help prevent bad breath, tooth decay and abscess.



Keep up with Vaccinations

Adult pets still have vaccinations they need annually to stay healthy. This includes: DHPP-4, Rabies, FVRCP, and elective vaccines such as Bordetella, Leptospirosis, Canine Influenza, FeLV, and Lyme disease.

Vaccines are important for prevention of life-threatening diseases including Distemper, Parvovirus, Influenza, Feline Herpes, Feline leukemia, Rabies and more. (See "Client Vaccine Information Sheet" for more details on specific vaccinations and vaccination schedules.)

