

FELINE OBESITY

You love your cat. And you want your cat to be happy and healthy. That's why watching your cat's **weight** is so important. The good news is that getting your cat back in shape may help you enjoy many active years together. While changing your cat's diet and behavior can be challenging, the right approach - and plenty of patience - will help shed those extra pounds.

PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH OBESITY INCLUDE:

- Arthritis, "Slipped Disc," and torn or strained ligaments.
- Respiratory problems associated with endurance and exercise.
- Heart problems from overwork.
- Liver Disease.
- Diabetes.
- Heat Stroke - due to a decreased ability to control heat.
- Skin problems.
- Excessive gas and/or constipation.
- Lowered resistance to disease.
- Anal gland impaction and infection.
- Increased risk for anesthesia and surgery.

OBESITY REDUCES YOUR PET'S LIFE SPAN!!! (And also their enjoyment of life!)

CAUSES OF OBESITY:

- **OVEREATING!!** (90% of all cases.)
- Lack of exercise.
- Lowered metabolism.
- Emotional trauma.
- Hormonal imbalances.

OBESITY TREATMENT: We are interested in all phases of disease prevention, and will work closely with you to reduce your pet's **weight**. However, **SUCCESS DEPENDS ON TOTAL COOPERATION!!**

- Feed only the recommended **weight** loss diet in the recommended quantities, **OM or R/D**.

- Start increasing your cat's daily activity level, gradually increasing the amount of exercise over time. (introduce new toys, take for walks)
- Frequent monitoring by your veterinarian to ensure that your pet is losing the right amount of **weight** at the proper rate.

Sometimes, though, a diet and exercise are an important first step but may not be enough.

- Bloodwork may be necessary to rule out medical problems causing **weight** gain.

Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns!

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