

OBESITY

Your pet has a weight problem! This may be very detrimental to its health; and is responsible for many chronic medical problems.

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.
- Dystocia - difficulty in giving birth.
- 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 its 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!!**

- Decrease food intake 40% - this means feed about 1/2 the normal amount fed.
- Spread the total daily ration throughout the day.
- Several small feedings are recommended instead of one or two larger meals.
- Snacks **MUST NOT BE GIVEN!**
- One daily **PET TAB VITAMIN** is all that is permissible.
- The pet does not really care about the snack, but rather the attention it gets.
- Keep the pet out of the kitchen/dining area at meal times.
- Feed only Prescription **Diet RD** or **IAMS** Less Active Diet.
- I have had no success feeding other commercially prepared foods or homemade diets.
- Commercial Low-Calorie Diets may be used once the weight is removed to prevent regaining weight.
- Expect your pet to lose 1-2 pounds each week maximum.