

Ensure your dog or cat has the right amount of Vitamin D



Optimum levels of vitamin D help prevent a wide variety of diseases in dogs and cats. Vitamin D plays a vital role in your pet's immune system, but most don't get enough from their diet. The Vitamin D blood test will let you know if your pet needs more.

Vitamin D impacts many areas of your pet's health, and low levels can be easily corrected. Here are just a few of the many reasons it is important to check your dog or cat's vitamin D status.

General Information

1. 75% of both dogs and cats fed a commercial food diet are vitamin D insufficient.
2. Male neutered dogs have almost 30% lower vitamin D levels than intact males.
3. Spayed female dogs are 10% lower than intact females.
4. Vitamin D levels drop about 3-5% each year after the age of 5.
5. Breed plays an important role in vitamin D status. For example, Golden Retrievers have a 21% lower median concentration of vitamin D than German Shepherds.
6. Dogs and cats depend on diet for vitamin D since they cannot make it via sunlight



Disease States

7. Dogs with mast cell tumors have significantly lower vitamin D than healthy dogs.
8. Vitamin D sufficiency slows the progression of Chronic Kidney Disease and improves health.
9. Dogs with IBD have significantly lower vitamin D levels than healthy dogs.
10. Vitamin D sufficiency significantly improves atopic dermatitis.
11. Low stores of vitamin D are associated with an increased risk of cancer.
12. Low stores of vitamin D are associated with increased inflammation.
13. Cats with IBD or LSA have significantly lower vitamin D levels than healthy cats.



Have your pet screened using a simple blood test to determine their Vitamin D level.



Discuss with your veterinarian options for supplementation to increase levels.



Have a follow up test performed at your next visit to ensure supplementation is adequate.

VitD can be tested by itself or in combination with other routine wellness blood tests such as calcium, PTH, or INCaSe® to give a complete wellness assessment.

Knowledge is Key
for managing
the health of your pet

Importance of vitamin D blood tests

- To determine if your pet has sufficient vitamin D or needs supplementation.
- If supplementation is needed, to establish the correct dosing level.
- To ensure that levels rise to the target value and not to dangerously high levels.

How often?

- One initial test to determine if vitamin D is in the healthy range.
- A follow up test every 8-10 weeks until the target value is reached.
- Annually to ensure that a healthy level is maintained.

*Consult with your vet in establishing a supplementation plan.



Disease Prevention & Immune Support

Blood testing to ensure a happy, healthy pet

WHEN TO TEST



Patient Demographics

- Older than 5 years
- Neutered/Spayed
- Overweight



Diet & Supplementation

- Recent Diet Change
- Natural/Homemade Diet
- Specialized Diet (ie low fat)
- Taking Steroids
- VitD Supplementation Change



Illness and Conditions

- Cancer
- Heart Disease
- Kidney Disease
- Infection
- Inflammatory Bowel Disease
- Arthritis
- IMHA
- Diabetes
- Hyperparathyroidism
- Hypercalcemia
- Other

Learn more at

DMakesADifference.com



If your dog or cat tests insufficient or deficient for vitamin D, discuss your options with your veterinarian. Supplementation may be warranted.

Vitamin D and your pet

Disease prevention & immune support



Blood testing to ensure a happy, healthy pet