



***My dog or cat is ageing...
what do I do now?***

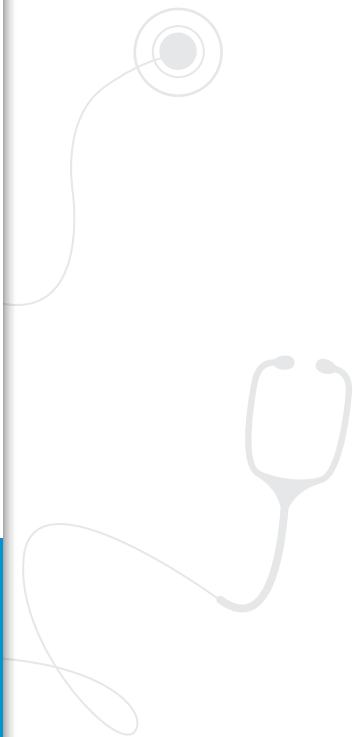




reliable and affordable dietary pet food



Veterinary exclusive



Your older dog or cat is in a stage of life with other requirements concerning nutrients in the food. That is partly because of a decrease in your pet's activity. Next to this, the ageing process leads to a reduced level of digestion of food. This results in less nutrients being absorbed by the body. For various frequently occurring disorders in ageing dogs and cats, special dietary foods are formulated that can reduce and sometimes even get rid of the symptoms.

In this folder you will find more information about the ageing process of dogs and cats and what role TROVET food can play in supporting dogs and cats that have reached senior age.

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The occurrence of complaints, resulting from ageing, can differ greatly in each animal. Finding the ideal diet means looking at the specific nutritional requirements of your older dog or cat. What can be a great diet for one dog or cat may be less ideal for another dog or cat.

Nutrition and stage of life

Nutrition plays an important role in every life stage of your pet. The risk of obesity increases as dogs or cats gets older. The dog or cat becomes less active, so they require less energy. In old animals the amount of muscle tissue will decrease and the amount of body fat will increase. Foods with a lower content of protein, fat and phosphorous and a higher content of fibres are ideal for older dogs or cats. Extra fibre reduces the risk of constipation and reduces the hunger sensation after a meal, due to a better gut fill. The lower protein content and phosphorous level help slow down the loss of renal function.



Changed metabolism

When the metabolism is disrupted for a long time, diseases may occur. Causes of a disturbed metabolism include: a changed hormone balance, wear of various organs, and a reduction in activity.

It is important to prevent obesity in your ageing dog or cat, as this can have many unwanted consequences, such as joint problems, diabetes and an increased risk of cancer and heart problems.

Energy

As ageing progresses, animals get less active. Exactly when the activity decreases, is different in each pet. Animals that lose their vitality earlier were probably less active when they were younger.

The 'burning' of carbohydrates, fats and proteins provide energy to the body. The amount of energy that can be extracted from the diet will depend on the digestibility.

In case of insufficient energy intake, your pet will lose weight. When too much weight is lost, the condition worsens and the body functions less well. If your pet eats too much, it will take in more energy than it uses. Your pet will then convert the excess energy into fat.

Fats

Fats are essential, despite the changing nutritional requirements of the older animal. Fats provide 2.5 times more energy than carbohydrates and proteins. They are a concentrated form of energy and are highly digestible. Fats can be easily stored by the body and must be of high quality to deliver the essential fatty acids. Essential fatty acids are fatty acids that can not be produced by the animal itself and must therefore be present in the food. Essential fatty acids

are important for a good skin and coat condition and for a healthy brain. A too low intake of these fatty acids decreases the coat condition, which can be seen more frequently as the pet ages.

Problems associated with ageing

Some symptoms may indicate that your older pet has deficiencies. The tissue quality deteriorates due to wear and degradation of the cells. This increases the risk of several diseases.

Common problems in ageing dogs and cats:



Obesity



Kidney problems



Skin and coat problems



Heart problems



Dental problems



Joint problems

If you suspect that your dog or cat has one or more of the above conditions, please contact your veterinarian. Intervening in time can considerably limit the severity of the consequences in a number of conditions. Early stage cancer can often be treated surgically and a proper diet can help an animal with starting kidney failure and can often lead a normal life for many years.

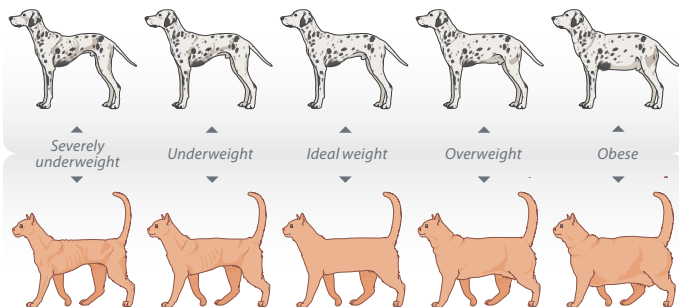
If necessary, your veterinarian starts a therapy with a specific TROVET dietary food. Dietary foods can reduce symptoms of certain diseases or even make them disappear completely.

The dietary guidelines are merely a starting point. It is crucial for the health of your older dog or cat that regular check-ups are made, to assess the physical condition. If necessary, an adjustment in the amount food or the type of diet can be made.

Obesity



Older animals have a lower energy requirement due to a reduced activity and decrease in muscle mass. This increases their chance of developing obesity. Stimulating the peristalsis and the provision of food with a low energy density is recommended. TROVET Weight & Diabetic for dogs and cats meet these conditions.

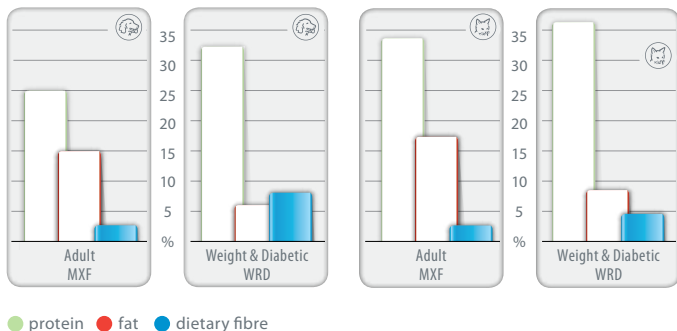


TROVET Weight & Diabetic | WRD

Weight & Diabetic is a complete formulated dietary food for overweight adult dogs and cats. A combination of a low fat content and increased fibre content results in a low energy density. This ensures that you can provide your dog or cat a normal food volume during the weight loss period. The increased fibre content makes the diet suited for dogs and cats with fibre responsive colitis or constipation problems. Overweight pets are more prone to developing diabetes. The increased fibre content results in more gradual glucose absorption, reducing the risk of developing diabetes. The gradual glucose absorption also reduces blood glucose peaks after a meal in diabetic animals.



Graph 1: Maintenance foods versus weight reducing foods



More information about Weight & Diabetic can be found in the brochure 'My dog or cat is overweight... what do I do now?'

TROVET Mobility & Geriatrics | MGD is also suited for dogs with a reduced energy requirement. Mobility & Geriatrics will be further discussed in the section Joint problems.

TROVET Sterilised | SHF, for cats

Sterilised is specially formulated to meet the changing nutritional requirements of castrated cats. It can be given to kittens from six months of age and older.

To prevent overweight, the energy density of Sterilised is lowered. This way a normal meal volume can be given, despite a reduced energy requirement of the cat.

Sterilised has an increased protein content, to ensure the provision of sufficient protein, despite the lower calorie intake. The increased protein intake also prevents muscle wasting.

In addition, extra dietary fibre from cellulose, beet pulp and psyllium are added to the diet. These fibres provide extra gut fill and stay in the digestive tract for a longer time, causing your cat to be less hungry after meals. These fibres also help to reduce the occurrence of constipation. Cellulose is an insoluble fibre that promotes intestinal peristalsis and leaves the body through faeces. Beet pulp and psyllium absorb moisture from the intestines, which creates a smoother stool for the prevention of constipation and diarrhoea.





Skin and coat problems

Reduced skin elasticity and skin condition can lead to dry, thin and flaky skin and a dull coat at a later age. Several fatty acids have an anti-inflammatory and skin supporting effect and help to maintain a healthy skin and shiny coat.

TROVET Regulator | Ω HD, for dogs

Regulator is an easily digestible food and is formulated with a high content of skin supporting fatty acids. This food helps to calm down an inflamed skin and supports the recovery and maintenance of a healthy skin and coat. Omega 3 fatty acids from fish oil and omega 6 fatty acids from borage oil have an inflammatory effect.

More information about Regulator can be found in the brochure 'My dog is suffering from atopy... what do I do now?'



Dental problems

Up to sixty percent of all dogs older than three years of age have light to severe dental problems. This includes dental plaque, dental tartar, dental inflammations and bacterial infections around the teeth. Research has shown that tartar build-up is a problem in twenty

percent of all dogs. Inflamed gums, called gingivitis, also occurs in twenty percent of all dogs. When the dog gets older, the chance of the dog getting dental problems increases. Dental problems can have negative effects on various organs.

Several studies have proven that dental care diets can help to reduce dental problems.

TROVET Dental & Dental mini | OCF, for dogs

Dental is a complete dietary food for adult and senior dogs that are sensitive for the formation of dental plaque and tartar. The unique structure and shape provide a less brittle kibble and promote a scrubbing effect. Dental is an elastic kibble that allows the tooth to sink deeply into the kibble. This results in better contact with the tooth surface. Eucalyptus oil is added to help reduce the unpleasant smell coming from the mouth. Added xylitol, lysozyme and lactoferrin reduce the bacterial growth. Addition of substances with a so-called anti-oxidative effect, such as vitamin C, vitamin E and green tea extracts help in supporting the immune system in the oral cavity. As a result, the resistance of the oral cavity will be favourably influenced. Nutraceuticals and active ingredients provide a fresh breath and help to prevent the formation of dental plaque.



More information about Dental and Dental mini can be found in the brochure 'My dog has dental problems... what do I do now?'



Kidney problems

Chronic kidney disease (CKD) is a common disease and an important cause of mortality in older dogs and cats. The occurrence of this disease increases as the dog or cat gets older. Estimates are that thirty percent of the geriatric cats and ten percent of the geriatric dogs suffer from CKD. CKD cannot be cured and will worsen as time progresses. The symptoms will become more clear as the disease worsens.

TROVET Renal & Oxalate | RID

Renal & Oxalate is specially formulated to meet the requirements of dogs and cats with chronic renal failure. It has a limited protein content and contains less phosphorous than a conventional diet. The diet prevents the accumulation of waste, reduces the stress on the kidneys and slows down the progression of renal failure. The proteins used are of high quality, in order to meet the amino acids requirements, without leading to excess waste products.



More information about Renal & Oxalate can be found in the brochure 'My dog or cat has bladder or kidney problems... what do I do now?'

Mobility & Geriatrics is also suited for dogs with a reduced kidney function. Mobility & Geriatrics will be further discussed in the section Joint problems.

Heart problems



In the veterinary practice, patients with heart problems are becoming more common. This is partly due to the fact that dogs live longer lives, but also because improved diagnosis methods have increased the detection rate of these disorders. The increased popularity of breeds that are prone to heart diseases is also an important cause.

Heart conditions are all the conditions affecting the heart structure or function. These primarily occur in older dogs. The main causes are leaking heart valves and disorders of the heart muscle tissue itself. In humans, the diet has a very large influence on arteriosclerosis. However, dogs are able to metabolise large amounts of fat, with only minimal effects on blood cholesterol levels. In dogs, a sudden heart attack or the development of arteriosclerosis is very rare. Dogs usually have slowly developing diseases that develop over ranges from several months to years.

Emaciation in dogs with heart problems is common. Stiffness and stamina problems can result in a decreased appetite. Late stage heart problems may also lead to a changed metabolism. These changes lead muscle tissue being used as an energy source, when otherwise fat would be used.

In older dogs with heart problems it is important to provide a specially formulated diet.

TROVET Regulator | ΩHD, for dogs

Regulator is an easily digestible food, formulated with a relatively high fat content. This fat is on one hand to increase palatability and on the other hand to provide as an easy metabolisable energy source for the body. The diet contains extra taurine and L-carnitine. These nutrients support a good cardiac function and are often present in reduced quantities in dogs with chronic heart problems.

Additionally, Regulator is rich in energy and fatty acids. Omega 3 fatty acids have been shown to support the function of the heart and to help prevent cardiac arrhythmia. The increased energy content and extra omega 3 fatty acids reduce the risk of weight loss as a result of heart failure, also known as cardiac cachexia.

Regulator is relatively low in salt, to support optimal blood pressure. An increased level of potassium compensates the potassium loss caused due to the use of diuretics.

Food for dogs with heart problems only supports a proper heart function and must not be seen as a stand-alone therapy for dogs.

More information about Regulator can be found in the brochure 'My dog has heart problems... what do I do now?'



Joint problems



Osteoarthritis (also called degenerative joint disease) is very common in dogs and cats as they get older. Slowly but surely the joints of your dog or cat wear out. Heredity and obesity play a role. Difficulty walking, pain and decreased vitality are just a few symptoms that may indicate a joint problem. The progress of wear and tear on the joints can be slowed down by using dietary foods or dietary supplements. A joint problem such as osteoarthritis can not always be prevented and cannot be cured. Nutrition often plays an important role in both prevention and treatment of joint problems.

The treatment is primarily aimed at keeping your pet as comfortable, active and pain free as possible. This is usually done through the use of pain relieving medication and adjusting the activity. The prevention and treatment of overweight is also important. Especially in dogs and cats that have joint problems, a proper diet or supplement can help to reduce the symptoms.



Healthy joint



Early stage of osteoarthritis



Osteoarthritis

TROVET Mobility & Geriatrics | MGD, for older dogs

Mobility & Geriatrics dietary food is specially formulated to support the older dog with joint problems. Mobility & Geriatrics can also be used preventively.

The dietary food contains natural products. Active ingredients such as Devil's claw and Boswellia resin help prevent further degeneration of cartilage and have anti-inflammatory properties. A combination of gelatine, glucosamine and chondroitin provide the building blocks for joint cartilage. Added fish oil fatty acids have a proven anti-inflammatory effect and help reduce pain during movement. As a result, the use of analgesic medication can often be reduced, and can sometimes be entirely omitted. The reduced energy content may help to reduce overweight.

In addition, the phosphorous and protein content of this food is reduced, to reduce the stress on the kidneys.

TROVET Mobility | MJS

Mobility is a natural dietary supplement, without any added conservatives, to support the joints of dogs and cats. This supplement contains the GAGs glucosamine and chondroitin sulphate and the precursors heparin, keratin sulphate and dermatan sulphate from green-lipped mussel, abalone and cartilage from fish.

Mobility is available in powder form and bites.



Tip: Mobility Bites are ideally suited to responsibly reward your dog or cat with joint problems. Mobility Bites are not suitable for animals with gluten-related disorders.

Unlike analgesics, the effect of Mobility is not directly visible. The effects are visible after 2 to 4 weeks, with the best results after 6 weeks.

More information about Mobility & Geriatrics and Mobility can be found in the brochure 'My dog or cat has joint problems... what do I do now?'

TROVET Treats

TROVET has an extensive range of responsible rewards, also known as treats. Most treats are suitable for both healthy dogs and cats, as well as dogs and cats with a special dietary requirement or prescription diet. The TROVET treats are cookies in different shapes and are an ideal reward that can be used during training, after a walk or just as a snack.

The special thing about TROVET treats is that, besides the taste, they are formulated in such a way that they fit well with various diets. Giving 'regular' treats to dogs or cats that get dietary food, can negatively affect the efficacy of these foods. Therefore, carefully choose a treat that fits the situation of your dog or cat. Always ask your veterinarian for more information and advice. TROVET treats are available exclusively via your veterinarian.

For pet owners, there is a more detailed treat brochure 'I want to give my dog or cat something extra besides dietary food... what do I do now?'. You can find these at your veterinary practice or at www.trovvet.com.

Treats suited for older dogs

In older dogs and cats it is important not to unnecessarily burden the kidneys. This can be prevented by limiting the dietary phosphorous intake. It is also important to avoid food with a calcium/phosphorous imbalance. The treats that meet these requirements are:

- > Hypoallergenic Treat (Horse) | HHT - tendon
- > Hypoallergenic Treat (Rabbit) | HRT
- > Hypoallergenic Treat (Rabbit) | HRT - ear
- > Hypoallergenic Treat (Venison) | HVT - tendon
- > Low Calorie Treat | LCT
- > Multi Purpose Treat (Hydrolysed Protein) | MHT
- > Multi Purpose Treat (Lamb) | MLT





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