

CAT ARTHRITIS*

Cats do not stay kittens forever. It is normal for their behaviours to change with adulthood.

However, an adult cat becoming less agile and playing less is often disregarded as “just getting older,” when the changes may actually be due to other reasons.^{2,3}

*Just like humans, cats may suffer from arthritis pain**

Cat arthritis* is common...

...yet can be difficult to detect



Increases with age, but young as well as old can be affected⁴



Masters of disguise—Cats hide pain⁶



In a recent study, over 90% of cats showed signs of DJD on x-ray



Arthritis changes can occur gradually²



A published study revealed that <40% of cats with arthritis displayed clinical signs of pain on examination



Behaviour is often different at the vet clinic⁷

*Osteoarthritis (OA) or degenerative joint disease (DJD).

The good news is that you can help your cat and veterinarian by watching out for possible signs of arthritis pain at home, such as changes in your cat's movement and behaviour.

You can even start now!

Please take a few minutes to see how your cat compares to the changes in cat-like moves shown in the examples on the following pages—especially if you are the owner of a middle to older-age cat.

DOES YOUR CAT SHOW POSSIBLE SIGNS OF ARTHRITIS PAIN?

Just like humans, cats differ in personalities and behaviours. It is **change in your cat's** movement or behaviours that is most indicative of pain associated with arthritis. Even then, there can be other reasons for those changes. Consult with your veterinarian. Only a qualified veterinarian can properly assess your cat and make an accurate diagnosis of arthritis.

Cat arthritis is a lifelong condition, but a lot can be done to help. By acting now, you can help your cat feel more comfortable and give them the potential to rediscover some of their cat-like moves!

Your veterinarian may choose to treat your cat's chronic pain with medication like a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID).

Onsior® (robenacoxib) is the first NSAID indicated for the control of pain and inflammation associated with chronic musculoskeletal disorders, such as osteoarthritis, in cats in Canada.⁸

Onsior's small yeast-flavoured tablets are easy to administer, and can be given with or without a small quantity of food.

For more information about Onsior for your cat, speak with your veterinarian or Elanco Canada at 1-800-265-5475.

For full details on Onsior, refer to the complete product label.



REFERENCES

1. Horn JA et al (2011) Home range, habitat use, and activity patterns of free-roaming domestic cats. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 75(5):1177-1185 doi:10.1002/jwmg.145.
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7. Stamper C. (2018) Osteoarthritis in cats: a more common disease than you might expect. *US Food and Drug Administration website*. <https://www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/ResourcesforYou/AnimalHealthLiteracy/ucm382772>. Updated February 2, 2018. Accessed June 29, 2018.
8. Canadian Onsior Tablets for Cats Product Insert (2018)

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Movement!

It's an important part of a cat's life



HAS YOUR CAT'S MOVEMENT CHANGED?

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A CAT'S LIFE



One thing is for certain, cats like to rest. In fact, they like to rest a lot!¹

But whether they are indoors or outdoors,

movement

is important for many things:



Has your cat changed its cat-like moves?

Each drawing and description is an example of a possible change in movement or behaviour.^{2,6} Look at each example in turn.

Think back to when **your cat** was a young adult (but not a kitten) and compare his/her movement and behaviours **then to now**.

Do you see any similarities to the examples provided?

If the answer is "yes," please tick the box.

Cats are individuals, so if your cat has never expressed a certain behaviour, simply move on to the next example.

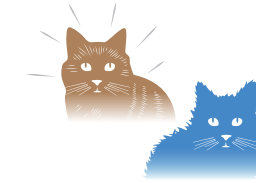
KEY: ■ Previous behaviour i.e. "young, adult cat" ■ Changed behaviour i.e. "cat as he/she is now"



PLAYING

Plays energetically and with interest

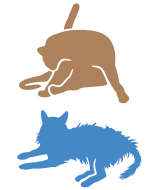
Little to no interest in toys or chasing objects



HYGIENE: APPEARANCE

Good thorough self-grooming: smooth shiny coat

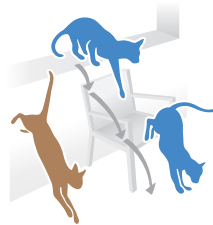
Poor self-grooming: coat is dull and may be matted in places



HYGIENE: GROOMING POSTURE

Flexible posture, extensive grooming

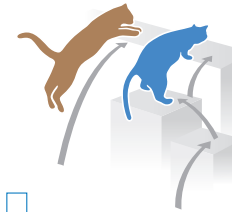
Inflexible posture: Grooms easy to reach areas only



JUMPING DOWN

Jumps down without hesitation in one graceful leap

Hesitates or lowers body down before jumping. Uses other objects as steps



JUMPING UP

Leaps straight up to higher levels without hesitation

Uses other objects as steps or avoids high-level areas



HYGIENE: GROOMING ACTIVITY

Relaxed grooming of feet, legs, back and other areas

Overzealous grooming. May cause loss of fur or sore skin



HYGIENE: TOILETING

Clean and tidy. No problem getting into tray. Comfortable posture

Struggles to climb into tray. Awkward posture. Accidents/missed target



STAIR CLIMBING

Moves quickly and smoothly up stairs without hesitation

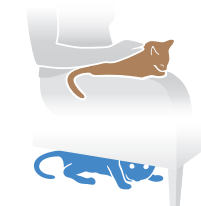
Hesitates or avoids stairs. Moves slowly or awkwardly. Might stop midway



STAIR DESCENDING

Moves quickly and smoothly down stairs without hesitation

Hesitates or avoids stairs. Moves slowly or awkwardly. Might stop midway



SOCIABILITY

Sociable and enjoys company, does not shy away from contact, does not avoid people

Sits in areas away from the family, may hide under furniture



PERSONALITY

Calm and non-aggressive, can be stroked without reaction

Avoids contact. Can be aggressive when touched

After completing the assessment, please refer to the summary on the back page.