



Pet Care NOTES



Presented by
Tracy A. Barlup,
VMD
and associates

RECOGNIZING HYPERTHYROIDISM IN CATS

A cat's thyroid hormones can affect nearly every organ in his or her body. When thyroid hormone production increases, the thyroid, which is located in the neck, can become enlarged and start impacting other parts of the cat's body. It is a dangerous condition to leave untreated because it can lead to serious heart problems. A cat with hyperthyroidism may exhibit many symptoms including weight loss, increased appetite, and increased thirst. A cat may also have increased urination and vomiting, and may have a matted or oily coat. In the early stages, the symptoms may appear mild, but they become more pronounced over time. A veterinarian can diagnose thyroid disease via a physical exam and blood work.

As a responsible pet owner you need to be aware of any unusual symptoms, serious problems, or abnormal behavior your pet exhibits. Although some animals can be quite self-sufficient, they can also benefit greatly from your help with certain conditions and diseases, such as hyperthyroidism. Help your pet have a happy, healthy 2008.

www.longmeadowvet.com

Longmeadow Animal Hospital
19764 Longmeadow Rd., Hagerstown
301-733-8400

10164471