

**Wellness Exams and Early Disease Detection are two of the Six Pillars of Preventative Health Care**

*Critical Pillars of Good Health:*

- ◆ *Regular Wellness Exams and Early Detections of Disease*
- ◆ *Routine Vaccinations*
- ◆ *Preventative Dental Care*
- ◆ *Parasite and Flea Control and Prevention*
- ◆ *Regular Exercise*
- ◆ *Nutrition*

**Talk to one of our veterinarians about your pet's preventative health care today!**



**SHAW PET HOSPITALS**

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**Central Saanich  
Animal Hospital  
(250)-652-4312**

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**Vetcetera Pet  
Hospital  
(250)-361-1287**

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**Hollywood Pet  
Hospital  
(250)-370-7734**

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**Facts about  
Wellness  
Exams and  
Early  
Disease  
Detection**



## WELLNESS EXAMS AND EARLY DISEASE DETECTION

### Wellness Exams: Essential to Early Disease Detection

Annual wellness exams are critical to your pets continued good health.

We regularly take ourselves to see doctors for eyes, teeth and general health. Your veterinarian is all of these to your pet and more. They are therapist, nutritionist, exercise trainer and surgeon. Think of it like “one-stop-shopping”. Your pets health, all in one place.

By taking your pet to their veterinarian each year until they are 7, and then twice a year after that you ensure that any medical problems will be seen early and can be preventable or treatable. Slow progression disease like tooth decay or eye degeneration can sneak up on your pet making life hard.

Tooth problems can be the start of more serious conditions like heart disease, serious blood infections and kidney failure, but its easy to stop this early.

Since our pets live shorter lives than we do, disease can progress quickly and without appropriate immediate treatment, something initially simple could become life threatening.

Some breeds are predisposed to having certain health issues. Your veterinarian is aware of these conditions and can help prepare you for them by teaching prevention, management and treatment when they do arise.

When taking your pet for a wellness exam it is important to think of anything you need to ask questions about.

Has your dog suddenly started to have problems getting up in the morning?

Are you fetching the ball more than your dog?

Is your cat looking more like a watermelon than a lion?

Does your cat have you filling their water dish non stop and cleaning the litter box 20 times a day?

These could be early warning signs of diseases that need treatment.

**So you've made a wellness exam appointment, here's what to expect.**

When you arrive you will be asked specific questions about your pets current health. The more specific you can be the better informed the veterinarian will be.

Your pet will be weighed, have its heart, lungs and respiratory rate checked.

Their teeth, ears, skin and general overall condition will be examined.

After this the veterinarian will focus on any problems you have noticed or they have seen during the exam and recommend appropriate treatment.

When you leave the notes will be entered into your pets records for future referral.

**Remember only your veterinarian is trained in the overall health of your pet and is your best first line of defense for early disease detection.**