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HOW DO I KNOW WHEN THE TIME HAS COME

Assessing the quality-of-life for your pet to help you
make the right decision

Making an end-of-life decision for your pet may be one of the most difficult decisions you will ever make. Usually, the euthanasia serves to shorten the animal's suffering. But animals don't always show their discomfort and distress. That's why it's a delicate choice to make. To help you better visualize the overall well-being of your pet, defined as much by its physical and mental well-being, our mobile veterinary service developed a quality-of-life chart. Don't forget that every situation and animal are different. This is only another tool to support you in your decision-making.

This chart will better help visualize the general well-being of your companion animal. A high score suggests a good quality of life while a lower score suggest a poor quality of life. A score less than 60 suggests that the animal has probably a lower quality of life and if it is less than 50, below that which is desirable. A serious evaluation of your pet's well being is necessary to either determine what steps could be undertaken to improve its quality of life or whether euthanasia should be considered.

Ask yourself this question: If you were in the same condition as your animal, what decision would you want to be made?

My pet...	Strongly agree (All the time)	Agree (Most of the time)	Neutral (Sometimes)	Disagree (Occasionally)	Strongly disagree (Never)
Does not want to play, does not enjoy the same activities as before	0	1	2	3	4
Does not respond to my presence or does not interact with me in the same way as before	0	1	2	3	4
Does not interact with others as before (example : more irritable, more aggressive)	0	1	2	3	4
Hides or want to be alone	0	1	2	3	4
Sleeps more than usual	0	1	2	3	4
Is less active than usual	0	1	2	3	4
Is limited in certain movements (ex: climbing stairs, jumping)	0	1	2	3	4
Does not groom himself anymore, has no longer a nice coat	0	1	2	3	4
Has difficulty to get up or move	0	1	2	3	4
Is needing assistance to move	0	1	2	3	4
Seems to be experiencing pain	0	1	2	3	4
Is shaking or trembling	0	1	2	3	4
Is panting, even while resting	0	1	2	3	4
Whines more often	0	1	2	3	4
Eats/drinks more (endless appetite or thirst) or eats/drinks less than before	0	1	2	3	4
Seems nauseous or is vomiting	0	1	2	3	4
Is losing weight	0	1	2	3	4
Is urinating and/or defecating on himself	0	1	2	3	4
Is not clean in the house anymore	0	1	2	3	4
Has difficulty urinating or defecating	0	1	2	3	4
Has diarrhea often	0	1	2	3	4
Brings conflicts in the house because the different members of the family do not have the same visions or values regarding his end of life	0	1	2	3	4
Leads me to adapt my life according to him (for his medications, for his needs, so that he's not alone etc), which decreases my own quality of life	0	1	2	3	4
Does not seem to enjoy life	0	1	2	3	4
Has more bad days than good days	0	1	2	3	4

Total score : /100

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