

Hillcrest Veterinary Clinic

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Canine Wellness Testing & Your Pet

Welcome to your dog's annual wellness exam! This is a great opportunity for your veterinarian to perform a nose to tail physical examination on your dog, and to ensure they're as healthy on the inside as they seem on the outside. Dogs are great at hiding symptoms of illness, so it's very important that your veterinarian see them on a yearly basis.

Wellness testing is an easy, non-invasive way for your veterinarian to establish what a baseline healthy is for your dog, and to catch any illnesses that may be lurking below the surface. Early detection and intervention can slow or stop the illness progression, which will ultimately increase your dog's life span and the time you get to spend with them!

The veterinarians here at Hillcrest are excited to be able to offer a discounted comprehensive wellness panel through our partners at IDEXX Laboratories. The panel includes the cost of the exam, and is a great way to keep an eye on your dog's health! We offer senior wellness panels, as described below:

Senior Canine Wellness

- Complete Physical Exam
 - Physical exam performed by your veterinarian, checking ears, eyes, teeth, abdomen, heart rate, and respiratory rate as well as any obvious external issues.
- Comprehensive CBC (Complete Blood Cell count)
 - The complete blood cell count looks for abnormalities in the red and white blood cells and platelets. This helps us find, among many other issues, things like anemia, dehydration, and infection.
- Chemistry 27 Panel
 - This panel looks at the functionality of the liver, kidneys, pancreas, and gallbladder. Early detection of diseases in these organs can be lifesaving! This chemistry differs from the one offered in the Adult Wellness panel by offering a more detailed look at the different organ functions. It also shows glucose levels, which is an important diagnostic in aging dogs.
- Total T4 (Thyroid)
 - Older dogs can be prone to hypothyroidism, so the senior wellness panel includes a look at their thyroid and its functionality.
- Urinalysis
 - Urine can be a great diagnostic tool- our lab looks at the color and clarity of the urine, and checks for protein, glucose, blood, blood cells, bacteria, and crystals that might be present in your dog's urine.
- Intestinal Parasite Screening
 - Usually called a stool or fecal sample, this test requires a fresh sample of feces from your pet. From that the lab looks for the eggs of roundworms, hookworms, whipworms, and the cystic form of the protozoan parasite giardia.
- 4Dx "Heartworm" Test
 - Recommended annually by the AVMA and the American Heartworm Society, this panel checks for the presence of heartworm as well as exposure to three tick-borne diseases- Lyme disease, ehrlichiosis, and anaplasmosis.