

THE SILENT KILLER

High blood pressure in cats usually shows **no visible signs**, meaning it can remain **undiagnosed for a long time**. Often called the “**silent killer**”, it is typically only discovered once it causes serious problems.

Many cat parents don't realise anything is wrong until their cat suddenly becomes **blind** or shows **changes in behaviour, appetite, or thirst**. These signs may indicate **uncontrolled hypertension (high blood pressure)**, which can lead to **damage to the eyes, kidneys, heart and brain**.

Being observant and **noticing early signs of disease** - such as slight changes in behaviour, thirst or body weight - can help your vet diagnose **hypertension and any related conditions** sooner.

WHAT ABOUT YOUR CAT?



Is your cat:



Known to have **chronic kidney disease**?



Known to have **hyperthyroidism**?



Over 7 years of age?



Showing any **changes in behaviour**?



Experiencing **changes in their sight**?

HIGH
BLOOD
PRESSURE

HIDES
AND
HARMS



If you have
answered yes
to at least one
question



Ask your vet
for advice

It's a good idea to visit your vet and ask them to check your cat's blood pressure.

They'll look at your cat's overall health and recommend the treatment that's best for them.



A SIMPLE CHECK✓ REVEALS IT



As cats age, some health issues are easy to see - others you need to check for. High blood pressure is often a silent condition that requires proactive screening to detect. Test, detect and treat.

Visit catbloodpressure.com for more information



HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE IN CATS

Cats can develop many of the same health conditions as we do, including **high blood pressure (hypertension)**. It's well known in older people, but many pet owners don't realise that cats can be affected too.

Most healthy cats have a normal blood pressure between 80 and 150 mmHg. A cat is considered **hypertensive** when their **blood pressure stays consistently above 160 mmHg**.

We know at least **40% of cats** over the age of 7 develop high blood pressure¹



WHICH CATS ARE MOST AT RISK?

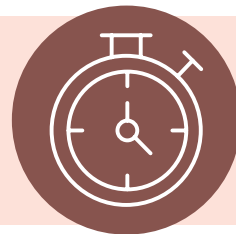
Hypertension is most commonly seen in senior cats.

The likelihood of hypertension developing increases with age. Some cats are more prone to hypertension, such as cats with **chronic kidney disease** and/or **hyperthyroidism**.

THE IMPORTANCE OF BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS

Measuring blood pressure in cats is carried out just like it is in humans, using a small inflatable cuff placed around the leg or tail. It's **easy, quick and painless**, taking only a few minutes and is well tolerated by most cats.

It takes
**less than
10 minutes**
in 92% of cats!¹



It is therefore recommended to **measure blood pressure at least once a year** in cats **over 7 years** old and more frequently in cats with **kidney disease** or **thyroid disease**.²

HOW TO TREAT YOUR CATS

Managing your cat's high blood pressure is vital because it helps prevent organ damage and supports a better quality of life.

Veterinarians can prescribe **effective medication** for the treatment of hypertension in cats, that will lower their blood pressure.

After starting treatment, **blood pressure is checked regularly**, and the dose is adjusted if necessary. **Treatment is lifelong.**

WHAT HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE MEANS FOR YOUR CAT

High blood pressure often has no obvious signs at first. But over time, it can affect how your cat feels and behaves.

You may notice:

- Changes in **behaviour** or **activity**
- Changes in **vision** or **sudden blindness**
- **Increased restlessness** or **withdrawal**

They may also show signs of underlying conditions such as:

Chronic kidney disease

- **Drinking** and **urinating more**
- **Weight loss** or **reduced appetite**

Hyperthyroidism

- **Weight loss** despite a good appetite
- **Increased activity** or **restlessness**
- **Vomiting** or **diarrhoea**

Left untreated, high blood pressure can damage vital organs including the **eyes, kidneys, heart** and **brain**.

EARLY DETECTION AND TREATMENT can help protect your cat's quality of life.



References: 1. Sparkes et al, 'The Mercury Challenge': feline systolic blood pressure in primary care practice - a European survey J Feline Med Surg. 2022 Oct; 24(10): e310-e323. • 2. Taylor SS, Sparkes AH, Briscoe K, Carter J, Sala SC, Jepson RE, Reynolds BS, Scansen BA. ISFM Consensus Guidelines on the Diagnosis and Management of Hypertension in Cats. J Feline Med Surg. 2017

Ceva Animal Health Ltd, Explorer House, Mercury Park, Wycombe Lane, Wooburn Green, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, HP10 0HH
01628 334056 ceva.co.uk

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