



WHY HYPERTENSION HARMS

Feline hypertension is common, with an estimated incidence risk of

1 IN 5 CATS
from 9 years¹











If left unchecked and untreated, feline hypertension can have

SEVERE CONSEQUENCES = 'TARGET ORGAN DAMAGE' (TOD)





LOSS OF VISION/ OCULAR DAMAGE: The frequency of ocular lesions has been reported to be as high as 100% in cats with hypertension²

"Ocular lesions not associated with an impaired menace response or pupillary light deficits are more amenable to antihypertensive treatment, hence early diagnosis is key³" ISFM



CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE (CKD):

- CKD is the most common condition associated with hypertension³
- Azotaemia has been found in up to 74% of hypertensive cats³
- There is little information currently available to determine whether the presence of hypertension initiates renal damage or whether systemic hypertension develops as a consequence of reduced renal function⁴



BRAIN DAMAGE

- Neurological signs are seen in 15-46% of hypertensive cats³
- Signs include disorientation, seizures, ataxia, depression and vestibular signs³



 Left ventricular hypertrophy (LVH) is seen in up to 53% of feline hypertension cases⁵

HEART DAMAGE

"Hypertension can cause devastating consequences so, where possible, should be identified at the earliest possible opportunity."



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Use the ACVIM Consensus blood pressure categories to assess risk of TOD²

Category	Systolic blood pressure (SBP)	Risk of target organ damage (TOD)
Normotensive	<140mmHg	Minimal
Pre-Hypertensive	140-159 mmHg	Mild
Hypertensive	160-179 mmHg	Moderate
Severely Hypertensive	≥180 mmHg	High

References:

1. Conroy et al. Survival after diagnosis of hypertension in cats attending primary care practice in the UK. JVIM. 2018 32(6): 1846-1855. 2. Acierno M, et al. ACVIM consensus statement: Guidelines for the identification, evaluation, and management of systemic hypertension in dogs and cats. J Vet Intern Med. 2018 Nov-Dec; 32(6): 1803–1822. 3. Taylor S, et al. ISFM Consensus Guidelines on the Diagnosis and Management of Hypertension in Cats. Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery (2017) 19, 288–303. 4. Bijsmans E, et al. Changes in Systolic Blood Pressure over Time in Healthy Cats and Cats with Chronic Kidney Disease. J Vet Intern Med. 2015 May-Jun; 29(3): 855–861. 5. Chetboul V, et al. Spontaneous Feline Hypertension: Clinical and Echocardiographic Abnormalities, and Survival Rate. J Vet Intern Med 2003;17:89–95.



