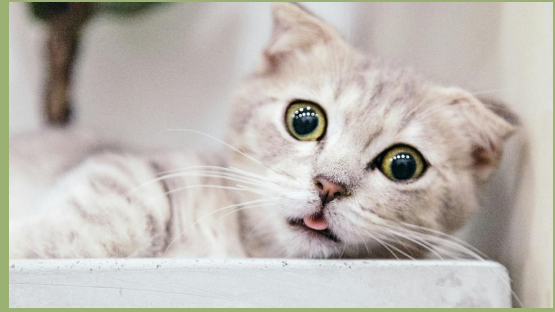


Morrisville Cat Hospital Newsletter



August 2024 - 151st Edition

Greetings!,

Happy August! August is national wellness month.

Announcements:



We are currently still experiencing a high volume of new client requests due to the unexpected closures of Atrium Cat Hospital and The Cat Clinic earlier this year. If you are referring someone to Morrisville Cat Hospital, please be aware that it may take 6-8 weeks before we have our first available appointment for new clients. We appreciate your understanding and patience as we strive to provide the best care for all of our feline patients. Thank you for your continued support!

We want to remind you of the importance of completing your history questionnaire. The information you provide is essential for ensuring that we provide you and your cat with the most personalized and effective care possible. The diet section especially, gives us insight into your cat's nutritional habits. This helps us make informed recommendations and adjustments to their care plan.

August is Feline CE Month

Royal Canin

August is Feline Focus Month! Royal Canin is offering a full month of free, live, virtual feline-focused CE in August to celebrate Take Your Cat to the Vet Day. Join a wide range of thought leaders in feline health as they explore topics including weight maintenance, constipation, Feline Idiopathic Cystitis, kitten care, and much more!

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Keeping Cats Hydrated During Summer

USA Today

Cats often drink less water than dogs, making it hard to gauge their hydration. Small cats need about 10 tablespoons daily, especially if eating wet food. Dehydration signs include fatigue and dry gums. Excessive drinking may indicate health issues.

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9 Reasons Your Cat Can't Meow and What to Do

Catster

If your cat can't meow, it could be due to laryngitis from excessive vocalization or inhaling irritants. Sometimes, it indicates toxic ingestion or a more serious condition like cancer. Hyperthyroidism treatment can also affect a cat's voice.

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MRI Study Reveals Spinal Degenerative Changes in 70% of Cats in the Study

Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association



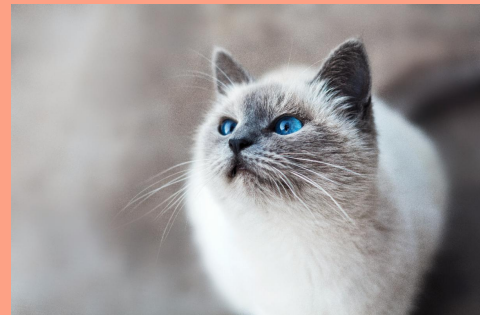
MRI scans of 114 cats with suspected spinal issues showed 70% had at least one degenerative change. Intervertebral disk degeneration (IVDD) was the most common, followed by spondylosis deformans (SD) and intervertebral disk protrusion (IVDP). Degenerative changes increased with age and weight.

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Why Your Cat Steals Your Food and How to Stop It

Woman's World

Cats often interrupt meals due to their strong sense of smell and interest in human food. They may also be social eaters, feeling safer eating near their caregivers. Setting boundaries, such as feeding them separately, can help curb this behavior.



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Assessing Stress and Quality of Life in Cats with Chronic Diseases

Veterinary Quarterly

Hair cortisol concentration (HCC) and a questionnaire evaluated stress and quality of life in cats. Research on both indicators in sick cats is limited. Researchers studied HCC and questionnaire data from healthy cats and those with chronic kidney disease (CKD) or suspected feline infectious peritonitis (FIP), finding higher stress and lower quality of life in unwell cats.

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Stress May Lead Cats to Neurodegenerative Diseases

Frontiers in Neurology

Chronic endoplasmic reticulum (ER) stress appears to have some links to various neurodegenerative diseases. Cats, exposed to

human-like stressors, show similar cognitive dysfunctions. Understanding their disease progression could offer insights into human neurodegeneration. With increasing cat ownership, feline cognitive disorders are becoming more recognized, though research is still developing.

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Flea Treatments Reduce Bartonella Transmission in Cats

American Journal of Veterinary Research

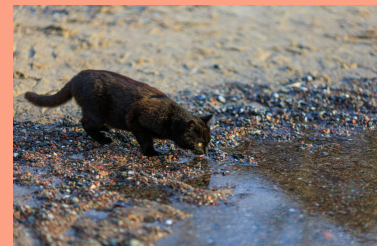
Researchers studied the transmission of *Bartonella clarridgeiae* among cats exposed to fleas. Using fipronil and (S)-methoprene, they found it could prevent the spread. The study involved 34 cats in different housing setups to evaluate the effectiveness of flea control products.

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3 Ways to Stop Your Cat from Scratching Furniture

KJZZ-FM

Cats scratch furniture due to stress, not malice. A new study shows loud noises and children contribute to this. Providing multiple scratching posts and safe spaces can help. Positive reinforcement is better than punishment. Proper play reduces frustration.



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Can Cats Detect Cancer? Unveiling the Truth

Catster

Amazing animal stories often feature heroic acts. While dogs can sniff out illnesses, it's unclear if cats can detect cancer. Some owners believe their cats' behaviors helped them discover cancer early, but there's no solid evidence

yet.



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Why Regular Health Screening is Crucial for Cats 7+ Years Old

Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine

Long-term health data for older cats is scarce. This study identifies prevalent conditions in seemingly healthy senior cats and tracks new diseases over two years. Among 259 cats screened, 21% had hidden illnesses like CKD or hyperthyroidism. New diseases emerged in 28% of mature and 54% of senior cats.

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How the Feline Brain Adapts to Hearing Loss

Neuroimage: Reports

In the absence of hearing, the brain repurposes regions for other senses, as shown by cortical thickness differences in deaf and hearing cats. Using 7T MRI, researchers found sensory regions thicker in deaf cats, while some non-sensory areas were thinner. Left hemisphere changes were more pronounced, supporting the task-retainment model of cross modal plasticity.

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Sorry I Barfed On Your Bed

(and Other Heartwarming Letters from Kitty)

by Jeremy Greenberg

"Dear Fellow Bird-Watcher,

I'm so happy you've decided to join me for some bird hunt —er, um, watching. I have a great appetite appreciation for birds. Do you see that beautiful red-headed thing? Well, according to the copy of *Bird Watcher's Digest* (the leading

authority on which birdies you should digest), that is called a house finch! You might not recognize it with its head still attached. But that's what they look like before they've been decapitated, gift wrapped, and left on your doorstep. And that over there is a sparrow. You might know it from its common name, "mysterious pile of feathers on the back porch."

Hey, why do you have a jingly collar in your hand? Can't you see I'm trying to get close to nature?

Love but with annoyed tail flickers,
Fuzzy Wuzzy"



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