

## **Age-Related Changes**

In the last year, you may have noticed changes in your dog's health, behavior, or activity that don't seem to be related to specific, diagnosed health conditions. These changes, which can be subtle, may be indicators of the aging process.

You are the expert on your dog! This section of the Annual Follow-Up Survey is an opportunity for you to share any observations you have made that you think might be related to aging.

None of the behaviors that we ask about are bad or wrong. Often they are simply part of our journey with our aging pets.

All questions are required unless stated otherwise. Please answer to the best of your ability.

Thinking back on the last year, did your dog exhibit any of the following characteristics related to the aging process or general old age (but not related to a specific injury or condition)? Please select all that apply.			
Variable format: [afus_ac_aging_char]			
	Blindness or poor vision [blind]		Housesoiling (urinating or defecating in areas
	Deafness or poor hearing [deaf]		previously kept clean) [housesoiling]
	Weight loss [weightloss]		Anxiety or fear of people, places, situations, etc. [anxiety
	Poor mobility due to weakness or collapse in legs and/or joints [mobility_weak]		Decreased interest in eating and drinking [eat_drink]
			Decreased time spent active [inactivity]
	Poor mobility due to pain or stiffness in legs and/ or joints [mobility_pain]		Increased repetitive activity (pacing up and down, walking in circles, wandering with no direction or
	Pain in other parts of the body [other_pain]		purpose) [repetitive_activity]
	Decreased ability to keep clean (smells like urine; greasy, matted, rough-looking hair) [cleanliness]		Learning difficulties or memory loss (slow or unable to learn new tasks or tricks or perform previously learned tasks or tricks) [memory]
	Disorientation or confusion (staring blankly at the wall or floor; getting stuck behind objects and unable to get around, etc.) [confusion]		Failure to recognize familiar people or other pets [recognition]  Occurrence of, or worsening of, any characteristics of
	Change in normal interaction with people or other pets (decreased social interaction,		old age, specifically in the late afternoon or early evening ("sundowning") [sundowning]
	increased attention seeking, aggression, etc.) [interaction_change]		Other characteristics of old age not listed here [other]
	Sleep disturbances (sleeping during the day and restless at night) [sleep]		Please describe the characteristics of old age that you observed in your dog: [description]
			No characteristics of old age [none]

## **Age-Related Changes**

In the last year, how would you describe your dog's quality of life? [afus\_ac\_recent\_qol]

- 1 O Always bad days
- 2 O Almost entirely bad days
- 3 More bad days than good days
- 4 Equal number of good days and bad days
- 5 O More good days than bad days
- 6 Almost entirely good days
- 7 Always good days

Has your dog's quality of life declined in the last year? [afus\_ac\_qol\_declined\_yn]

In the past year, what contributed most significantly to this decline? If more than one of the following was present, choose the one that seemed most important to you. Please select only one.

[afus\_ac\_qol\_declined\_reason]

1 O Physical changes related to old age (poor vision, poor mobility, etc.)

2 O Behavioral changes related to old age (disorientation, anxiety, etc.)

3 O Health-related problems (illness, injury, etc.)

Please describe the factors that contributed most to decline in quality of life: [afus\_ac\_qol\_declined\_reason\_other\_description]

If there is anything else that you would like us to know about age-related changes to your dog's behavior, activity, or health over the last year, please share it here: [afus\_ac\_other\_notes]

Woof! Thank you very much for telling us about how your dog is experiencing the aging process. We want all of our furry best friends to have the best possible quality of life for as long as possible.