

East-West Animal Hospital
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Quality of Life Evaluation

This is a handout to help guide you on when it is time to euthanize your pet. You are the only person who can make this decision. The criteria for each pet are different. Below are the criteria that need to be considered. We can help with some of these medically if you wish. Please discuss options if you are interested. All of these factors are evaluated on a scale of 1-10 (1 poor or 10 is very well in each area).

Pain 1-10

How much pain is your pet in? Is your pet on pain medication? Would you like to try something else?

Hunger 1-10

Is your pet eating on his/her own? Do you need to hand feed? Is your pet nauseous?

Thirst and Hydration 1-10

Is your pet drinking on his/her own? Is he/she drinking enough? Do you give fluids under the skin at home? If you are and it doesn't seem to be enough please discuss this with us.

Hygiene 1-10

Can your pet groom his/herself (mainly applies to cats)? Is he or she matted? Can you keep up with the grooming on a daily basis necessary to keep your pet comfortable?

Happiness 1-10

Does your pet seem to enjoy life? Is he/she playing with their favorite toy? Does he/she interact with family members and seem mentally aware of surroundings?

Mobility 1-10

Is your pet able to move about to do necessary functions? (This can be with or without assistance.) Is your pet having problems with seizures or stumbling? Would a sling, harness or cart be helpful?

Good Days vs. Bad Days

Does your pet have more bad days than good days? How many bad days in a row has your pet had? Have the other criteria the past few days decreased as well?