



Common Small Animal Health Concerns

It can be very difficult to tell if your small animal is experiencing a medical problem. They often do not show signs of illness until it is too late. Small animals are often prey species and have evolved to hide illness from predators.

It is very important to monitor your small animal's behavior daily. It is also vital to provide proper nutrition and maintain clean housing, food and water receptacles. Exercise and daily handling can also be very important to your small animal's health.



What am I monitoring my small animal for?

- Changes to food and water consumption
- Consistency in fecal matter (watch out for diarrhea)
- Changes in sleep or activity levels
- Make sure teeth are not over grown
- Check for drooling or wetness on the chin and neck.
- Check for hair loss, lesions, nasal discharge, ocular discharge, lumps and bumps
- Check coat condition



What do I do if I think my small animal is sick?

Observing your small animal can be the best way to notice a potential problem. If you do think your pet is sick, seek out the help of a veterinarian that specializes or has a lot of experience with small animals. You may need to go to a hospital that provides special services.

For more information or additional support, please contact our adoptions department at (856)424-2288 ext. 100 or adoptions@awanj.org.

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