

Animal Pain Awareness Month

Pain isn't fun for any of us, and our furry friends are no exception. September is Animal Pain Awareness Month.

This awareness month was inspired by the sole purpose of making animals feel more comfortable when they hurt when they are sick or injured. Animals, unlike people, can't tell if or where it hurts.

Acute pain is more recognizable because it manifests with a sudden change of behavior or clear signs of pain. But chronic pain, on the other hand, can be subtler and we might not be even aware that our beloved furry family member is hurting.

Old age, arthritis, cancer, old wounds, or fractures that did not heal properly can be the cause of chronic pain in pets. And pets are able to hide this chronic pain very well and suffer quietly. This month aims to educate pet owners to recognize the subtle signs and to take their pets for regular veterinary check-ups and pain evaluation visits.

When the pain is localized, there are many ways to minimize it or even neutralize it. Some of the pain management options are pain medications, acupuncture, physical therapy, [laser therapy](#), and various kinds of therapeutic massages.