

OBVIOUS SIGNS OF ILLNESS



Upper Respiratory Infection (URI):

Watery, runny eyes

Watery, runny nose

Greenish discharge from eyes and nose

Puffy, swollen looking, red eyes

Sneezing

Cats with URI often will not eat

URI spreads very quickly in a shelter setting!

Stools: Check for both diarrhea (watery/runny stool) and constipation. (also check for blood)

Large amounts of clear mucous in the stool should also be noted

Dehydration: The cat might be dehydrated if...

The gums are tacky or bluish/gray in color.

A healthy cat will have moist, pink gums.

If the scruff of the cat does not fall back down right away. If the skin stays up (like a tent) or does not return to normal right away, the cat may be dehydrated.

Hair loss/ scabs:

Although many times this might be caused during a fight, hair loss can indicate a ringworm infection.

Also check for any changes in appetite or unusual lethargy.

Litter box problems (can be a sign of a urinary tract problem or weight loss).

Changes in eating, grooming, elimination, and/or interaction may be a way of telling you that something is wrong and signs of a larger problem.



ALWAYS CHECK WITH YOUR VETERINARIAN IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS