

Caring for the Senior Rabbit

It was not very long ago that the average rabbit was living 5-8 years. Today, with a much greater understanding of this species, improved husbandry practices, and an array of treatment options available to help rabbits with illness or diseases, we are seeing that average increase to 9-10 years, with more and more rabbits living into their teens.

It's wonderful to see rabbits living longer and longer all the time, but rabbit caretakers need to be aware that with increased lifespans comes a greater potential to develop age-related illness and disease. The best way to keep your rabbit happy and healthy through their whole life, is to identify health problems early.

After the age of 5, rabbits are considered to be senior or geriatric rabbits, and are at greater risk of developing health issues. We recommend twice yearly exams for all rabbit patients after 5 years of age, with accompanying wellness blood work to help catch potential problems early, when they're more easily treated.