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## Chinchilla Healthcare

Your chinchilla should never go without eating. If your pet hasn't eaten for at least 12 hours, take it to a chinchilla-savvy veterinarian immediately.

Regular vet visits are a must! If your chinchilla is not examined routinely, health problems will be very difficult to detect before they are very serious or even deadly. We recommend full exams every 6 months. Yearly blood work is also very helpful in determining the condition of your pet.

A vet must see at least 2 chinchillas a week to be considered chinchilla-friendly.

Common chinchilla health problems: overgrown teeth, uterine infections, and upper-respiratory infections

Chinchillas overheat easily! Temperatures above 85°F are not safe for your pet.

Chinchillas are prey animals. If you have your chinchilla outside, remember that it is prey to numerous species such as hawks, owls, cats, and coyotes. Keep your pet safe and build a chinchilla enclosure, or don't leave it outside unsupervised. You don't want your pet to become another animal's dinner.

Spay or neuter your pet! Altering your chinchilla increases its life expectancy and betters its overall health. It also reduces behavioral problems such as spraying/marketing territory, cage aggression, and producing additional chins. Spaying eliminates your pet's chances of uterine infections, ovarian cysts, and uterine/ovarian cancers.

We recommend adoption. There are chinchillas in shelters such as the AZ Humane Society and various chinchilla rescues. If you're looking for a new friend, you might find a great one through one of those great organizations. Ask a staff member for a rescue list today!

Dr. Rowena D'Monte • Dr. William Langhofer • Dr. Samantha Lieberman • Dr. Joseph Lockhart • Dr. Daniel Fonza  
Dr. Jill Kirschenbaum • Dr. Kimberly Wangen • Dr. Erin Greenwood