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### FROM HYPER CAT TO HAPPY CAT

Feline hyperthyroidism is no longer a rare disease in daily veterinary practice. Since it has been recognized in cats in the late 1980's, it caught the eye of many endocrinologists and continues to be a topic of interest for research. Although it is now considered as the most important endocrine disorder in the ageing cat, the cause of the disease remains unclear.

Its influence on the entire metabolism and systemic functions of the patient is significant. Fortunately, the disease can be managed well and even permanently treated, but requires good owner compliance (especially when choosing the medicinal or dietary option) and follow-up after treatment instalment. Concomitant disease, such as declining renal function or hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, can complicate treatment of hyperthyroidism and may necessitate more frequent veterinary visits. The impact of hyperthyroidism on the patient's health can be large important when left untreated or poorly managed. Still, the overall prognosis is good, provided the cats are given a thorough work-up and stressing the owners' understanding of a good follow-up.