

Asilomar Assessment Criteria
Richmond SPCA/RAC&C Calendar Year 2008
Updated 1/1/08

Healthy

Definition:

The term “healthy” means and includes all dogs and cats eight weeks of age or older that, at or subsequent to the time the animal is taken into possession, have manifested no sign of a behavioral or temperamental characteristic that could pose a health or safety risk or otherwise make the animal unsuitable for placement as a pet, and have manifested no sign of disease, injury or congenital or hereditary condition that adversely affects the health of the animal or that is likely to adversely affect the animal’s health in the future.

Treatable Rehabilitatable

Definition:

The term “rehabilitatable” means and includes all dogs and cats who are not “healthy,” but who are likely to become “healthy,” if given medical, foster, behavioral, or other care equivalent to the care typically provided to pets by reasonable and caring pet owners/guardians in the community.

Conditions:

Behavioral:

Mildly shy dogs/cats (i.e.: initially makes conscious calm attempts to avoid people instead of approaching them, then makes attempts to visit. No hiding or aggressive behavior.)

Dogs/cats with minor handling issues (i.e.: During any of the handling tests – ears, tail, paws, teeth, stroke, or restraint – dog retracts or avoids handling.)

Mildly jumpy/mouthy dogs (i.e.: energetically jumps on, applies front feet, or applies open mouth with no pressure a few times during test)

Medical:

Mild

Demodex – localized, under 6 months of age

Malnourishment

Ear infection

Earmites

Intestinal parasites

Dogs/cats that are 5 to 8 weeks of age

General diarrhea without a diagnosis

Moderate

Coccidia

Upper Respiratory Infection

Kennel cough
Fatty tumors
Dogs/cats under 5 weeks of age (weaned orphans)

Serious

Unweaned infants without a nursing mother
Unweaned infants with a nursing mother
Cystitis
Pneumonia
Ringworm
Sarcoptic mange
Broken bones
Heartworms
Feline hyperthyroidism
PDA
VSD (if small/restrictive)
Pulmonic Stenosis (if mild)
Subaortic Stenosis (if mild)
Parvo + (if not moribund)
Hyperthyroidism

Treatable Manageable

Definition:

The term “manageable” means and includes all dogs and cats who are not “healthy” and who are not likely to become “healthy” regardless of the care provided; but who would likely maintain a satisfactory quality of life, if given medical, foster, behavioral, or other care, including long-term care, equivalent to the care typically provided to pets by reasonable and caring pet owners/guardians in the community; provided, however, that the term “manageable” does not include any dog or cat who is determined to pose a significant risk to human health or safety or to the health or safety of other animals.

Conditions:

Behavioral:

Moderately shy dogs/cats (i.e.: initially makes conscious attempts to avoid people instead of approaching them, does not visit unless encouraged to do so. Some hiding. No aggressive behavior.)
Dogs/cats with moderate handling issues (i.e.: During any of the handling tests - ears, tail, paws, teeth, stroke, or restraint - dog freezes, applies muzzle or teeth to hand and/or gets over-stimulated (frantic pawing, jumping, pushing, etc)
Moderately jumpy/mouthy (i.e.: energetically jumps on, applies front feet, or applies open mouth with no pressure regularly during test)

Dogs with mild/moderate separation anxiety (i.e.: Whining, barking, scratching at doors, windows, etc. that lasts for a few minutes upon/after departure. No serious damage to belongings. No harm at all to dog.)

Level 3, 4, or 5 resource guarders with protracted warning and high sociability
Dog-dog leash reactivity/aggression without a bite history

Medical:

Mild

Mild arthritis
Blindness/deafness
Missing limb

Moderate

Allergies
Demodex – localized, over 6 months of age or generalized under 6 months of age

Serious

Congestive heart failure
Chronic health conditions: kidney or liver disease, bladder stones, asthma, etc.
Controlled seizures
Controlled diabetes
Feline urinary syndrome with blockage
Irritable bowel disease
Chronic ear infections
Bladder stones
Canine hypothyroid
Hip and elbow dysplasia
Demodex – generalized over 6 months of age
Life-threatening wound/injury
FIV+
Feline Leukemia
Bloat
VSD (if large)
Pulmonic Stenosis (if moderate or serious)
Subaortic Stenosis (if moderate)
Mitral or Tricuspid Dysplasia
Tetralogy of Fallot
Degenerative Valve Disease
Dilated cardiomyopathy
Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy
Restrictive/unclassified cardiomyopathy
Heartworm disease (damage to the heart that does not improve with heartworm treatment)
Chemodectoma

Unhealthy & Untreatable

Definition:

The term “unhealthy & untreatable” means and includes dogs and cats who, at or subsequent to the time they are taken into possession:

- 1. Have a behavioral or temperamental characteristic that poses a health or safety risk or otherwise makes the animal unsuitable for placement as a pet, and are not likely to become “health” or “treatable” even if provided the care typically provided to pets by reasonable and caring pet owners/guardians in the community.*
- 2. Are suffering from a disease, injury or congenital or hereditary condition that adversely affects the animal’s health or is likely to adversely affect the animal’s health in the future, and are not likely to become “healthy” or “treatable” even if provided the care typically provided to pets by reasonable and caring pet owners/guardians in the community.*
- 3. Are under the age of eight weeks and are not likely to become “healthy” or “treatable,” even if provided the care typically provided to pets by reasonable and caring pet owners/guardians in the community.*

Conditions:

Behavioral:

Serious separation anxiety (i.e.: Whining, barking, scratching/chewing at doors, windows, etc. that lasts for an extended period upon/after departure. Serious damage to belongings. Chewing, digging, head-butting, etc. causes harm to dog or leads to life-threatening ingestion.)

Serious dog or cat aggression (i.e.: Lunges, snaps, snarls or is otherwise difficult to control around a cat or a dog.)

Serious stranger/barrier issues (i.e.: Growls at, lunges, snaps, snarls or bites at people when behind fence, kennel door, crate door, or other door.)

Aggressive behavior toward children

Seriously jumpy/mouthy (i.e.: energetically jumps on, applies front feet, or applies mouth with pressure regularly during test – causing pinching, bruising, scratching, or tearing of clothing)

Serious handling issues (i.e.: During any of the handling tests - ears, tail, paws, teeth, stroke, or restraint - dog growls, air snaps, applies teeth with pressure or serious intent to hand and/or gets over-stimulated (frantic pawing, jumping, pushing, etc).

Level 3, 4 or 5 resource guarders with low sociability

Seriously shy or feral dogs/cats (i.e.: Makes conscious attempts to avoid people instead of approaching them. Frequent or constant hiding, freezing or shaking involved. May employ growling, snapping or snarling to maintain distance from people.)

Dogs/cats with a bite history toward people

History of repeated injury to other animals

Medical:

Acute or end stage kidney failure

Acute or end stage liver failure

Hepatic lipidosis
Spinal cord injury
Parvo + (if moribund)
Blood disorders
Distemper
Hip dysplasia with osteoarthritis
Malignant, untreatable tumors
Infectious diseases not responsive to initial treatment
FIP+
Panleukopenia
Uncontrolled diabetes
Uncontrolled seizures
Cardiac hemangiosarcoma