

- A dislocation (i.e. hip, shoulder, ankle or toe)
- Osteochondrosis (cartilage problems)
- 'Aortic Thromboembolism': a blood clot affecting one or both back legs.

Signs to look out for

As well as the obvious limp, keep an eye out for less obvious signs such as:

- Stiffness moving around/difficulty getting up and down
- Reluctance to jump
- Difficulty climbing stairs
- Overgrooming an area on their body (often indicates pain)
- Swollen legs/joints
- Walking slowly
- Lethargy (low energy)

When to contact your vet

Contact your vet for a non-urgent appointment if your cat has a mild limp (that doesn't improve within 24 hours), is slowing down with old age or seems a bit stiff when they move around.

Contact your vet immediately for an emergency appointment if your cat develops a sudden limp, can't put weight on a leg or is in severe pain. You know your cat best, contact your vet if you are concerned.

Find out whether you are eligible for free or low cost PDSA veterinary treatment using our checker below or visit www.pdsa.org.uk/eligibility

Published: Feb 2020