

Your Cat's Silent Struggle

Symptoms of painful degenerative joint disease often mask themselves without a veterinarian's diagnosis

By Nancy Peterson

Sayber is Rebecca and John Regnery's 13-year-old Siamese-mix. Two years ago, they noticed that Sayber held up her right front paw every time she rose from sleeping, limped along, but then was OK after several steps. A couple of days later, Sayber's veterinarian manipulated her front paws and showed Rebecca how the right leg couldn't bend as much as the left. The diagnosis was degenerative joint disease (DJD).

Recent research indicates that DJD occurs in cats more frequently than previously believed.

****Get the August 2008 issue of CAT FANCY to read the full article.****