

Suffield Veterinary Hospital April 2024 Patient of the Month

Meet Tiger and Toby, owned by mother Pat Roark of Suffield (Tiger) and daughter Jen Roark of Enfield (Toby). These two compassionate women have made it a policy to adopt senior cats that have somehow wound up in shelters, and give them the best senior years they can. One of the newer ways we can help geriatric cats is to consider using an innovative injection called Solensia which has proven to make a huge difference in the mobility and pain levels of arthritic cats. First introduced in the USA a couple of years ago, but available for longer in Europe, these are low volume subcutaneous injections given every 4 weeks which hurt no more than a vaccination. And the results are very impressive for most cats. Here's what the Roarks' experience with Solensia is:



"When you adopt an 18-yr-old (or 2), you are bound to have a cat with arthritis. Thankfully with the monthly Solensia injection, we can help these seniors feel better in their new homes.

Toby was adopted back in April 2023 from the CT humane society in Newington, where he had already been started on the injections while in their care. After his initial exam at Suffield, we decided to continue with the injections. He's extremely agile and active for an older cat so it's obviously working.

Tiger was adopted back on Dec 30, 2023 from Whiskers Pet Rescue in Southbury and he also had bad arthritis. Knowing how it helped Toby, we started Tiger on it too. He's a happy boy who may not be with us for long, but we expect this small step will make him more comfortable for whatever time he has left. " 😊



Last fall a similar monoclonal antibody injection for dogs called Librela became available to our veterinary profession. Since it has become available, many of our senior dog owners report amazing improvements in the mobility and happiness of their pets. And the veterinarians and staff members at our practice are experiencing the same dramatic changes in their own older pets. If your pet is moving more slowly, limping, having trouble on stairs or jumping up on furniture, it's possible that this could make a major difference in the quality of their life. We'll be happy to answer any questions you have!

For allowing us to publicly applaud Pat and Jen for their wonderful mission to help older cats, we're pleased to name Tiger (the white and tiger cat) and Toby (the red and white fellow) our April 2024 Suffield Veterinary Hospital Patients of the Month.

Suffield Veterinary Hospital

Dr. Ann Huntington ❖ Dr. Anita Sabellico ❖ Dr. Dawn Burke

Dr. Daniel Rothbart ❖ Dr. Emilie Laston

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View all of our Patients of the Month on our web site, www.suffieldvet.com