

## Lethargic Rabbit Concerns Owners

**Is a trip to the vet wise if the rabbit is unable to hold its weight and seems coma-like?**

*By Karen Rosenthal, DVM, DABVP*

Posted: November 27, 2008, 3:00 a.m. EDT

**Q:** I have a rabbit that is about 10 years old. He can't move or put weight on his feet. His feet look a little swollen, and his eyes are red and look nearly sealed shut. We are not sure if he is conscious. We are afraid that a trip to the vet might be too hard on him.

**A:** You are correct, a trip might be too hard on your rabbit, but that leaves you with few choices. The best choice would be to find a veterinarian who does house calls. More and more veterinarians are doing that these days with sophisticated vehicles equipped with supplies found in the hospital. Call around and find out if the house call veterinarian understands rabbit medicine. That is extremely important.

If you cannot find a doctor who makes house calls, then you have two choices. If you do nothing, your rabbit sounds like he is very sick and may not live much longer. Your goal will be to keep him as comfortable and as pain-free as possible. However, he may be stronger than you think, and a trip to the doctor may allow for a diagnosis and some medication to improve his health.