

DEGREE IN VETERINARY MEDICINE AND ZOOTECHNICS

ENGLISH II

REHEARSAL

“CANCER IN ANIMALS”

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CANCER IN ANIMALS

The purpose of this writing is to analyze and understand the terms and importance of cancer in animals. In this essay, in addition to logical arguments and definitions, some personal points of view based on previous experiences are also presented, but first we will begin by establishing the meaning of "CANCER". Cancer is a disease in which some cells in the body multiply uncontrollably and spread to other parts of the body. The word "cancer" is often confused with neoplasia, but only malignant neoplasms are truly cancers. Benign neoplasms do not grow aggressively, do not invade surrounding body tissues, and do not spread throughout the body. Malignant neoplasms, on the other hand, tend to grow rapidly, invade surrounding tissues, and spread or metastasize to other parts of the body. Therefore, this area of veterinary medicine should be of common interest for all people who are in constant interaction with pets, production animals, or are simply students of veterinary medicine, because it is very important to be able to recognize and differentiate the types of tissues that are seriously affected by cancer, those tissues that are nothing more than simple benign tumors. Unfortunately, the prevention of neoplasms, tumors and cancer in animals is not possible, however early detection and adequate treatment seem to be essential to avoid more severe damage. The main areas where neoplasms appear are the skin, mammary glands, head and neck, internal parts of the nose, testicles, abdomen and bones. Cancer can be diagnosed in time by performing X-ray studies, ultrasounds, blood tests and tissue biopsies, all of which will allow tumors to be recognized and confirm or rule out whether they are benign or malignant. There are some determining factors that increase the incidence of cancer in animals, these factors are: age and species. Veterinary medicine statistics indicate that approximately 50% of deaths from cancer in dogs and cats are due to them having an average age of 10 years. In turn, most of the reported cases occur in greater numbers in dogs, while in cats there is a lower incidence of death from cancer. Now, with regard to treatment, each type of neoplasia requires individual treatment and may include one or a combination of treatment therapies such as surgery, chemotherapy, radiation, cryosurgery (freezing), hyperthermia (warming) or immunotherapy. By following these treatments to the letter, some types of neoplasms can be cured, however other types can only be controlled to reduce them, unfortunately. It is also important to keep in mind that sometimes treatments are very painful for our pets, so it is essential to go to specialists on the subject who can suggest more extreme alternatives, such as euthanasia, in patients whose diagnoses are not promising. The success of the procedures will depend largely on the type and extent of the neoplasia, as well as the aggressiveness of the therapy. Here are some clinical signs that can be taken into account for early detection of neoplasms and that will require immediate attention from a veterinarian:

- Anormal swellings that persist or continue to grow.
- Sores that do not heal.
- Weight loss.
- Loss of appetite.

- Bleeding or discharge from any opening in the body.
- Offensive odor.
- Difficulty eating or swallowing.
- Hesitancy to exercise or loss of stamina.
- Persistent lameness or stiffness.
- Difficulty breathing, urinating or defecating.

Given all the information presented in this essay, we can conclude that early detection of a neoplasia is possible taking into consideration the clinical signs that an animal may present and that it is of utmost importance that human beings who live with animals or are owners . of a pet, you must pay special attention to your pets at all times and take them immediately to a veterinarian at the slightest of the signs described here, this action will be essential for the success of any treatment of this nature.

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