



**ENSAYO. CANCER EN ANIMALES**

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Depending on where the tumor is located, it could be external, that is, when it is visible or perceptible to the touch (such as tumors in the skin, oral cavity, eye or muscles) or internal, being diagnosed through imaging tests such as ultrasounds or x-rays. With which it is possible to detect masses in internal locations. After identification, confirmation is made through a sample collection, or with a cytology or biopsy. The most common type of cancer we treat most often in both dogs and cats is lymphoma, a cancer that affects the white blood cells

In dogs, other cancers that we frequently encounter in the hospital include osteosarcoma (bone cancer), hemangiosarcoma (cancer of the blood vessels), oral melanoma, carcinoma of the sac, thyroid carcinoma (thyroid cancer), soft tissue sarcoma (cancer of the joints), breast tumors, tumors of the nasal cavity, and urothelial carcinoma (cancer of the bladder). In cats, the most common cancers treated at AniCura Glòries are squamous cell carcinoma of the face or oral cavity, lung carcinomas, mammary carcinomas and bowel cancers.

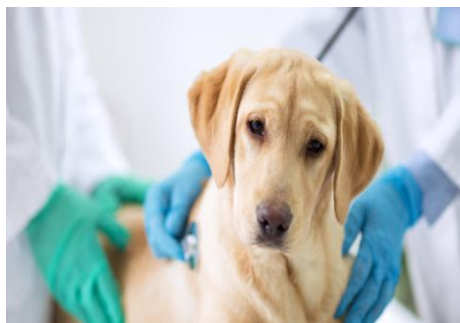
That is why only some types of cancer, such as those of the male and female reproductive tract, are preventable. For example, neutering in young dogs prevents breast cancer and tumors of the uterus and ovary. Neutering in dogs prevents testicular cancer and partially prevents prostate cancer. The rest of the cancers are not preventable because there are no known environmental causes that generate them in many cases, so we cannot give specific recommendations to prevent cancer. Although one aspect that ultimately predisposes to this disease is obesity, therefore, a pet with a good body composition is less likely to suffer from cancer than one that is obese. Some of the signs are changes in behavior, body condition or loss of vitality, drinking and urinating more than necessary, can indicate that a pet has pain or chronic discomfort that could be attributed to cancer. Other more obvious signs such as coughing, bleeding from the oral cavity, black stools, distention of the abdomen or excessive exhaustion, are warning signs. If it is also an older animal that presents these types of signs, there is a high probability that they are caused by cancer. Faced with these situations, it is recommended to go immediately to a veterinarian to make the proper diagnosis.

Typically, cancer is described as the uncontrolled spread of cancer cells that appear in a particular part of an individual's body and can end up spreading to the rest. However, in six species of the animal kingdom, this disease has acquired the ability to jump from one individual to another and, thus, spread contagiously between members of the same species.

The best-known example is contagious cancer among dogs, although there have also been worrying cases in the Tasmanian devil population and in some molluscs. In all these cases, a cancer cell from the infected individual enters the body of the new individual and, through the uncontrolled division of the cell itself, ends up infecting the healthy individual. In this way, the "daughter" cells of the first infected cell can not only make the second individual sick, but also others whom they can infect later.

The oldest cancer in dogs

Contagious cancer among dogs, also known as "sticker tumor" or Transmissible Venereal Tumor (TVT), is the oldest known cancer. Research suggests that this cancer originated somewhere in Asia between 4,000 and 8,000 years ago. Despite being a benign cancer, it is terribly contagious. Most of the time it is spread by sexual transmission, but it only takes the rubbing of the infected dog's sexual organs with any part of another dog for it to be transferred. For this reason, some infected dogs have the tumor in their snout (having come to smell the reproductive organs of the infected dog) This disease usually affects stray dogs, which cross each other without any type of control and, therefore, spread the disease as an epidemic, giving continuity to this practically immortal cancer.



In terms of animal health, cancer is a disease with a very high incidence and mortality, mainly due to the fact that pets are living longer and longer, so improving treatments is a priority for animal medicine. As with people, cancer in dogs is usually generated and identified by the appearance of a tumor. This alteration caused by an uncontrolled division and multiplication of cells can lead to an increase in the volume of a certain mass of tissue (the tumour).