



ENSAYO

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Humans are not the only ones affected by cancer. As with people, cancer in domestic animals is usually generated and identified by the appearance of a tumor. This alteration caused by uncontrolled division and multiplication of cells can cause an increase in the volume of a certain mass of tissue. What are neoplasia, tumors and cancer? Neoplasia is the uncontrolled, abnormal growth of cells or tissues in the body, and the abnormal growth itself is called a neoplasm or tumor. It can be benign or malignant. Benign neoplasms do not grow aggressively, do not invade the surrounding body tissues, and do not spread throughout the body. Malignant neoplasms, on the other hand, tend to grow rapidly, invade the tissues around them and spread or metastasize to other parts of the body. The word "tumor" or "mass" is often used to describe the actual swelling or other physical appearance of a neoplasm. The word "cancer" is often confused with neoplasia, but only malignant neoplasms are truly cancers. What are the most common? The type of cancer that we treat most frequently, in both dogs and cats, is lymphoma, a cancer that affects the white blood cells in dogs. Other types of cancer that we frequently find in the hospital are osteosarcoma (bone cancer), hemangiosarcoma (blood vessel cancer), oral melanoma, anal sac carcinoma, thyroid carcinoma (thyroid cancer), soft tissue sarcoma (joint cancer), breast tumors, nasal cavity tumors and urothelial carcinoma (bladder cancer). Common types of neoplasia in pets

Skin Skin neoplasia is very common in older dogs, but much less common in cats. Most skin neoplasms in cats are malignant, but in dogs they are often benign. Your veterinarian should examine all skin neoplasms in a dog or cat to determine if any are malignant.

Mammary Gland (Breast) – 50% of all breast neoplasms in dogs and greater than 85% of all breast neoplasms in cats are malignant. Spaying your female pet before 12 months of age will greatly reduce the risk of mammary gland neoplasia.

Head & Neck – Neoplasia of the mouth is common in dogs and less common in cats. Signs to watch for are a mass or tumor on the gums, bleeding, odor, or difficulty eating. Since many swellings are malignant, early, aggressive treatment is essential. Neoplasia may also develop



inside the nose of both cats and dogs. Bleeding from the nose, breathing difficulty, or facial swelling are signs that may indicate neoplasia and should be checked by your veterinarian. Lymphoma Lymphoma is a common form of neoplasia in dogs and cats. It is characterized by enlargement of one or many lymph nodes in the body. A contagious feline leukemia virus can be the cause of lymphoma in some cats. Testicles Testicular neoplasia is rare in cats and common in dogs, especially those with retained testicles (testicles that did not move to their normal positions during growth, and may be located in the abdomen or between the abdomen and scrotum). Abdominal Neoplasia Neoplasms inside the abdomen are common but it is difficult to make an early diagnosis. Weight loss or abdominal swelling can be signs of abdominal neoplasia. Bone Bone neoplasms are most often seen in large breed dogs and dogs older than seven years, and rarely in cats. The leg bones, near joints, are the most common sites. Persistent pain, lameness, and swelling in the affected area are common signs of the disease. Many of the above signs are also seen with non-neoplastic conditions but they still need prompt attention by a veterinarian to determine the cause. Neoplasia is frequently treatable and early diagnosis will aid your veterinarian in delivering the best care possible. How is cancer treated? Each type of neoplasia requires individual care and may include one or a combination of treatment therapies such as surgery, chemotherapy, radiation, cryosurgery (freezing). Hyperthermia (heating) or immunotherapy. Your pet's overall health is important too, and your veterinarian may recommend dietary changes or other things to help your pet better respond to treatment. Once you have a diagnosis, your veterinarian will discuss the best treatment option(s) for your pet and the risks and side effects associated with each option. Pain management is also an important part of treatment. In some instances, your veterinarian may refer you to a board-certified oncologist (cancer specialist) and/or specialty clinic depending upon the recommended course of treatment. Some types of neoplasia can be cured, but other types can only be managed to decrease spread and prolong your pet's comfort and life as



much as possible. How early a neoplasm is detected and the type of neoplasm are often the biggest factors determining the success of treatment. Sometimes, euthanasia is considered when a pet has neoplasia (especially with some cancers). Before you make your decision for treatment or euthanasia, discuss the options with your veterinarian so you can make the best choice for your pet and your family. In conclusion Exposure to chemical agents considered carcinogenic, whether as air pollutants, in processed foods or in the hydrocarbon industry and its derivatives at the time of combustion, are currently daily events that affect health of people and animals, in open and closed spaces. There is clear scientific evidence that associates these agents with increased morbidity and mortality in cardiovascular pathologies, respiratory, endocrine and the increase in cases of cancer. No However, the characteristics of the compounds, doses and times of exposure are also relevant in the development of these processes, so that it now becomes increasingly necessary pay attention to habits and lifestyle, reduce the use of chemical substances in homes, reduce or eliminate the use of insecticides, as well as trying to avoid processed foods, since greater quantity, greater permanence of the chemicals in the body, and greater association with the risk of acquiring some type of cancer



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