

Short Communication

Owner's attitudes, perception and satisfaction toward spaying and neutering in cats

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People are becoming more interested in keeping cats to avoid loneliness. Behavioural signs during oestrus cause owners annoyance. They want a permanent solution (Faver, 2009). Pet owners showed mixed feelings about spaying and castration in cats. After surgery female cats sometimes show signs like aggressiveness, or spraying of urine once after surgery (David Yates, 2019). Owner's satisfaction depends on these behavioural changes after surgery. This study was aimed to find out the attitudes after reproductive surgery in cats.

This study was carried out in Dhaka and Chattogram metropolitan areas. The data was collected randomly from Shahidul Alam Quaderi Teaching Veterinary Hospital, Chattogram and Teaching and training pet hospital and research center, Dhaka. Surgical records of 80 cats (43 females and 37 male) were collected from October 2023 to February 2024. A self-designed pretested questionnaire was designed for recording information. Cat owners' attitudes and experiences were recorded before and after surgery (Mann et al., 2011; Fossum, 2018).

Data were stratified using commercial software (Microsoft Excel version 2016, Microsoft, USA), analyzed with a statistical program (STATA-14) and results were expressed as frequencies, proportions and percentage.

Three types of cats breed were included - local (41.3%), crossbred (6.3%) and Persian (52.5%). Two males (5.4%) and 21 females (48.8%) showed signs of heat once after surgery (Table 1). Fifteen males (40.5%) showed aggressive behaviour (Table 2). Nine males (24.3%) and six females (14.0%) showed urine spraying once (Table 3). Most of the cats defecated after surgery without any complication on second day of surgery.

It is common to see heat once after surgery due to presence of previously produced steroid hormones. No cat showed heat more than once after surgery, and owners were happy. The main purpose for spaying or castration was to stop heat cycle (Nikolina and Duvall, 2015). Male cats are more likely to spray urine than females just

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after surgery. It could be due to changing hormone concentration in blood (Esther Dias Costa, 2017).

Table 1: Showing heat sign after surgery

Sex	NO	YES	Total
M	35 (94.6%)	2 (5.4%)	37 (100%)
F	22 (51.2%)	21(48.8%)	43 (100%)

Table 2: Aggression behaviour after surgery

Sex	NO	YES	Total
M	22 (59.5%)	15(40.5%)	37(100%)
F	43 (100%)	0	43(100%)

Table 3: Urine spraying after surgery

Sex	Yes	No	Sex
M	9 (24.3%)	28 (75.7%)	M
F	6 (14.0%)	37 (86.1%)	F

There is a correlation between testosterone levels and aggressiveness and urine spraying (David Yates, 2019). Impact of the sterilization largely depends on animal's individual personality, history and physiology (Howe, 2015). Owners were confident to agree to such surgery on their pets without hesitation.

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