

How many female cats needlessly die from mammary gland cancer in the U.S. each year?

A. Total U.S. female feline population **42,000,000**

2007-2008 National Pet Owners' Survey, Greenwich, CT. American Pet Products Association



B. Lifetime incidence of mammary tumors - 2.5% **1,050,000**

Kustritz, MVR (2007). Determining the optimal age for gonadectomy of dogs and cats. J. Am. Vet. Med. Assoc. 231 (11) 1665-1675



C. Percent malignant - 90% **945,000**

Kustritz (2007).



D. Percent of malignant tumors that are metastatic - 80% **756,000**

Hayes AA, Mooney S (1985). Feline mammary tumors. Vet. Clin. North Am. Small Animal Pract., May 15 (3) 513-520.



E. Annual death rate, if life expectancy = 10 years **75,600**

New, Jr. JC, Kelch WJ, Hutchinson JM, Salman MD, Scarlett JM, and Kass PH (2004). Birth and death rate estimates of dogs and cats in U.S. households and related factors. J. Appl. Animal Welfare Sci. 7 (4) 229-241.



F. Death rate if all spayed before first estrus = .09 **6,804**

Overley B, Shofer FS, Goldschmidt MH, Shorer D, and Sorenmo KU (2008). Association between ovariectomy and feline mammary Carcinoma. J. Vet. Int. Med. 19, 560-563.



G. Net fewer deaths from feline mammary cancer each year if cats spayed before first heat

68,796