Pyometra management in the Private practice setting

This survey is intended for practices that provide services to companion animals in some capacity (i.e. general practices, walk-in practice, emergency practice, mixed animal practices, etc) even if your clinic elects to not treat pyometras.

Practices we are excluding in this study include high quality, high volume, spay and neuter (HQHVSN) clinics, low cost spay and neuter clinics, humane societies that perform care for shelter animals, or wellness appointment only clinics.

This survey is anonymous and no personal data will be collected.

We are interested in the information on a per-clinic basis, so please do your best to ensure that only one person responds per clinic.
* 1. What species does your general practice see?
   - Mixed animal
   - Mixed animal, companion animal predominant
   - Companion Animal exclusive
   - Other (please specify)

* 2. How many doctors work at your practice?

* 3. What services does your practice offer? Check all that apply.
   - Spay/neuter
   - Preventative services
   - Surgery other than spay/neuter
   - Sick patient appointments
   - Emergencies (all of the time)
   - Emergencies (sometimes if available)
4. Why does your practice choose to not accept emergencies?
5. In what region is your practice located in? Use https://apps.bea.gov/regional/docs/msalist.cfm?mlist=2 if you are not sure.

- Far west
- Great lakes
- Mideast
- New england
- Plain
- Rocky mountains
- Southeast
- Southwest
- Outside of US

6. What size metro area is your practice in?

- Less than 250,000
- 250,000-1,000,000
- More than 1,000,000

* 7. Approximately how often do clients have trouble paying for all recommended treatment?

- Always
- Often
- Sometimes
- Rarely
- Never
8. On average, how many spay/neuter surgeries does your practice perform per week?

9. What is the average cost, in dollars, for a routine medium-sized (approximately 20-55lbs) dog spay when not included as part of a puppy wellness plan/package?

10. What is the average cost, in dollars, for a routine cat spay when not included as part of a kitten wellness plan/package?
11. Does your practice treat pyometras? Please select yes even if it is only sometimes.

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No
Pyometra management in the Private practice setting

12. What percent of patients present for pyometra treatment? *This is all patients presenting to your clinic for treatment, regardless of whether you decide to treat them. Assume obtunded animals are minimally responsive to normal stimuli, but respond to noxious stimuli. Must sum to 100.*

- BAR/QAR
- Depressed or non-ambulatory
- Obtunded or lateral

13. In your opinion, why does your practice choose to not treat pyometras?

14. For patients you do not accept for pyometra treatment, what are the most common outcomes? *Rank in order of likelihood.*

- Treatment at an emergency practice
- Discharged against medical advice without treatment
- Euthanasia (primarily economic)
- Euthanasia (appropriate due to poor prognosis)
- Referral to a HQHVSN or Spay/neuter practice
- Referral to another general practice

☐ Never or almost never
15. What is the approximate number of non-incidental dog pyometras your practice treats per **month**?

16. What is the approximate number of non-incidental cat pyometras your practice treats per **year**?

17. What is the average cost, in dollars, of a medium-sized (approximately 20-55lbs) dog pyometra at your practice?

18. What is the average cost, in dollars, of a cat pyometra at your practice?
19. For pyometras treated surgically at your clinic, how long between diagnosis and surgery? *Give answers as an approximate percentage of each category. Must sum to 100.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Same day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Next day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

20. Where do your pyometra cases originate? *Give answers as an approximate percentage of each category. Must sum to 100.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Patient diagnosed by another practice but client self-referred</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient diagnosed by your practice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Client diagnosed pet and self-referred</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referred from another clinic by a veterinarian</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incidental finding</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

21. For non-incidental pyometras, what is the average number of days between client noting significant problems with their pet/diagnosis of the pyometra (in the case of a referred pyometra) and presentation to your practice?

[Blank space]
22. Which of the following does your practice routinely provide for patients presenting with “textbook” indications of pyometra that is treated surgically with the intact uterus removed en bloc? (For example, a QAR, intact, 10 year old, female dog with malodorous vaginal discharge, 5% dehydration, and an elevated temperature.) Assume no previous diagnostics or treatments and that the patient recovers from surgery uneventfully. Please answer with what is actually done, not what you believe should ideally be done. You will have an opportunity at the end of the survey to share information about anything you think we may have missed.

- IV Catheter
- IV fluid resuscitation (bolus)
- IV fluid resuscitation (fluid pump)
- SQ fluid resuscitation
- CBC
- Chemistry
- PCV/TP
- Lactate meter reading
- Hematocrit meter reading
- Blood smear
- Preoperative radiograph
- Preoperative ultrasound
- Perioperative antibiotics such as cefazolin
- Perioperative blood pressure
- Perioperative capnography
- Perioperative pulse oximetry
- Long lasting single-injection antibiotic such as convenia or pen-G
- Swab uterine stump with antiseptic
- Culture uterine pus
- Lavage the abdomen
- Histopathology
- Postoperative oral antibiotics
- Postoperative hospitalization for remainder of day
- Postoperative hospitalization overnight (overnight staff present)
- Postoperative hospitalization overnight (overnight staff not present)
- Postoperative pain medication-NSAID
- Postoperative pain medication-Opioid
- Postoperative pain medication administered after 24 hours
If we missed any options please explain your typical protocol for this "textbook" pyometra.

* 23. How disruptive is a “textbook” pyometra surgery to your practice day? *If it depends on the day, pick the most common.*

- [ ] Not at all disruptive
- [ ] Mildly disruptive
- [ ] Moderately disruptive
- [ ] Majorly disruptive
24. Which of these presentations would you accept for treatment, at least sometimes?

- [ ] BAR/QAR
- [ ] Depressed or non-ambulatory
- [ ] Obtunded or lateral

25. What percent of patients present for pyometra treatment? *This is all patients presenting to your clinic for treatment, regardless of whether you decide to treat them. Assume obtunded animals are minimally responsive to normal stimuli, but respond to noxious stimuli. Must sum to 100.*

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BAR/QAR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depressed or non-ambulatory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obtunded or lateral</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

26. Based on the presentation at intake, what percent of patients survive pyometra treatment?

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BAR/QAR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depressed or non-ambulatory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obtunded or lateral</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
27. For patients you do not accept for pyometra treatment, what are the most common outcomes? *Rank in order of likelihood.*

- [ ] Treatment at an emergency practice
- [ ] Discharged against medical advice without treatment
- [ ] Euthanasia (primarily economic)
- [ ] Euthanasia (appropriate due to poor prognosis)
- [ ] Referral to a HQHVSN or Spay/neuter practice
- [ ] Referral to another general practice
* 28. Would you refer a pyometra surgery to a HQHVSN practice/shelter? A high quality, high volume spay neuter (HQHVSN) clinic provides spay and neuter services in high volume to help decrease the dog and cat overpopulation problem and decrease the shelter euthanasia rate. HQHVSN clinics predominantly focus on low income areas to improve the access to care for pet owners living in these areas face.

- Yes
- Yes, at least sometimes
- No
29. In your opinion, why is referral to HQHVSN clinics for pyometra surgery not considered?
30. In your opinion, why is referral to HQHVSN clinics for pyometra surgery considered?
31. Do you ever consider non-surgical treatment?
   - Yes, routinely
   - Yes, for select situations
   - No

32. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about treatment of pyometra in your practice or treatment of pyometra in private practice in general?