

Questionnaire

Risk factors for idiopathic cystitis in Norwegian cats – a matched case-control study

PATIENT IDENTIFICATION

Date

Patient database number

#

Name

OWNER INFORMATION

Name

#

Address

#

City

#

Telephone

PATIENT INFORMATION

Breed

#

Gender/reproductive status

M

MN

F

FN

Age (years) *

1. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CAT

1.1 What is the main use of the cat? (Choose one or more alternatives)

- Company
 Breeding
 Show

1.2 What is the cat's body condition?

- # Thin
Normal
Slightly overweight
Obese
#

1.3 Has the cat been rehomed? *

- # Yes
No
#

1.4 How will you describe the cat's personality? *

Yes	No	<u>Choose YES or NO</u>
#	#	Nervous
#	#	Fearful
#	#	Aggressive

2. ENVIRONMENT

2.1 Does the cat have outdoor access? *

- Indoor only
 Outdoor access

If outdoor access

→ Are there other cats in the neighbourhood?

- Yes
 No

If YES there are other cats in the neighbourhood

→ Does the cat fight with neighbouring cats?

- Yes
 No

If YES fights with neighbouring cats

→ Does the cat often get hurt due to fighting?

- Yes
 No

2.2 Type of living area? *

- Countryside
 Small village
 Suburbs
 City

#

2.3 Type of housing? *

- Detached/terraced
 Apartment ground floor
 Apartment 1st floor or higher

2.4 Is there a cat hatch/cat flap door in the home?

- Yes
 No

2.5 May the cat choose its own sleeping place? *

- Yes
 No

2.6 Is there a «core area» or place where the cat may hide or feel safe? *

- Yes
 No

3. OTHER PETS IN THE HOUSEHOLD

3.1 Are there additional pets in the home? *

- Yes
 No

If YES there are other pets in the home

→ Cat

- No additional cats
 1 additional cat
 2 or more additional cats

→ Dog

- Yes
 No

→ Other pets than cats or dogs

YES, specify.....
 No

If YES 1 or more additional cats in the home

→ Is the cat population stable?

Yes
 No

→ Do the cats eat together?

Yes
 No

→ Do the cats sleep together?

Yes
 No

→ Do the cats groom each other?

Yes
 No

4. FOOD AND WATER

4.1 Type of food? * (Choose one or more alternatives)

Commercial dry food
 Commercial canned food
 Homemade diet

#

4.2 Is the type of food changed frequently? * (more than once every third month)

Yes
 No

If the cats is neutered

→ Has the cat received a specialized diet for after neutering? *

Yes
 No

4.3 Feeding schedule?

Ad libitum
 Meal fed

Are the food and water bowls placed in a location providing safety and comfort for the
4.4 cat?

- Yes
 No

4.5 Are fresh food and water provided? (daily emptying and refilling)

- Yes
 No

4.6 Are the food and water bowls cleaned regularly? (minimum every second day)

- Yes
 No

4.7 Are the litter boxes and food/water bowls placed separately? (not in the same room)

- Yes
 No

5. Litter box

5.1 How many litter boxes are available in the home?

- Same as number of cats
 More than number of cats
 Less than number of cats

5.2 Is the litter box(es) placed in a location providing safety and comfort for the cat?

- Yes
 No

5.3 Size of litter box?

- Longer than the cat
 Shorter than the cat

5.4 Type of litter substrate?

- Cat sand
 Litter pearls
 Litter pellets ('Yesterday's News' or similar)
 Newspapers
 Wood shavings/saw dust

5.5 How often is the litter box scooped clear of waste material? *

- Daily
 Every other day
 Less frequently

5.6 How often is the litter box cleaned? (emptied and refilled)

- Weekly
- Every other week
- Monthly
- Less frequently

6. NATURAL BEHAVIOUR

6.1 Is there a scratching area provided?

- Yes
- No

6.2 Is there a climbing post/elevated vantage point provided? * (3D view)

- Yes
- No

6.3 Opportunity for playful activity?

- Low
- Average
- High

Appendix 1

Questionnaire – Definition of terms

PATIENT INFORMATION

Age (years)

Age is presented as complete years.

- Example: A 2 year and 6 months old cat is defined as a 2 year old cat.

Cats less than 1 year are defined as «less than 1 year».

1. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CAT

1.3 Has the cat been rehomed (from cat shelter or between private homes)?

This does not include change of home before 6 months of age.

1.4 How will you describe the cat's personality?

Nervous

The cat is easily scared or irritated - jittery and shy.

Fearful

The cat will retract or hide also in less stressful situations (not likely to provoke most cats).

Aggressive

The cat shows signs of apparently unmotivated aggression. Hostile or destructive behaviour.

2. ENVIRONMENT

2.1 Does the cat have outdoor access

Indoor

Indoor only is defined as:

- The cat is confined to a life indoor only.
- The cat may have limited access to a balcony or similar restricted area.

Outdoor access

Outdoor access is defined as:

- The cat has access to outdoor areas where the cat may move around at will. Includes outdoor access through cat hatch/pet flap door or that the cat is let out by the owner regularly.

2.2 Type of living area?

Countryside

Shielded location, no close neighbours or traffic.

Small village

Outskirts, open settlement, limited traffic.

Suburbs

Urban area, moderate, but more concentrated settlement and traffic.

City

City area, densely populated, dense traffic.

2.3 Type of housing?

Detached or terraced

Self-explanatory

Apartment ground floor

Apartment at ground level

Apartment 1st floor or higher

Apartment with no outdoor access at ground level.

2.5 May the cat choose its own sleeping place?

May choose

The cat has a permanent place chosen by will, or may sleep anywhere in the house by its own choice

May not choose

The cat is confined to a cage or specific room at night or the presence of other cats/pets limits the areas available to the cat.

2.6 Is there a "core area" or place where the cat may hide or feel safe?

This is a place where the cat may feel totally safe and «lets the guard down». It does not necessarily mean that the cat is hidden. Typical is a place where the cat lies down flat or peacefully curled up to sleep.

3. OTHER PETS IN THE HOUSEHOLD

3.1 Are there additional pets in the home?

If YES there are 1 or more additional cats in the home"

Is the cat population stable?

A stable population is defined as no frequent change (< 1 cat in or out/year).

4. FOOD AND WATER

4.1 Type of food?

Chose one alternative if one type is used more than the others.

Chose two alternatives if two types are used approximately 50/50.

4.2 Is type of food changed frequently?

More frequently than every third month. Means change of brand or main type of food.

→ If the cat is neutered

Has the cat received a specialized diet for neutered cats?

Chose "YES" if one of the following types of diet has been used.

Hills - Neutered cat, c/d, k/d, s/d, w/d

Eukanuba - Struvite Urinary Formula, Oxalate Urinary Formula

Specific - Neutered young, Adult Struvite Management

Royal Canine - Young s/o Stones & Weight, Mature s/o Weight & Kidney, Senior Kidney & Osteo, Sterilised 37

5. LITTER BOX

5.5 How often is the litter box scoped clear of waste material?

Scoping out is defined as clearance of urine and feces as opposed to cleaning of the box which involves changing the sand as well.

6. NATURAL BEHAVIOUR

6.2 Is there a climbing post/elevated vantage point provided?

Defined as a place where the cat may rest and have an overview of its main area.