# Supplementary Materials: Factors Which Influence Owners When Deciding to Use Chemotherapy in Terminally Ill Pets

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## **Questionnaire** Design

The following document presents the questions asked to respondents and provides an outline of the formatting, however it should be noted the questionnaire was undertaken online via Survey Monkey, therefore some formatting differences do exist.

#### Introduction

We would like to invite you to take part in a research study looking at how owners perceive the use of chemotherapy in cats and dogs which have been diagnosed with terminal cancer. Chemotherapy treatment is widely used in human medicine as part of the treatment approach in cancer patients. It is also becoming more popular as a treatment option in the veterinary industry. Understanding how owners feel about the use of chemotherapy in terminally ill dogs and cats, can help inform how veterinary practices approach initial discussions with clients at what is often an emotionally charged time.

The questionnaire should not take more than 10 minutes to complete. Please note, there are no right or wrong answers, we are interested in your opinions and feelings.

Please note that all information which is collected during the course of the research will be kept on a password protected laptop with the research. All information will anonymous. Questionnaire data will be held but it will all be coded for anonymity.

## **Section 1: Personal Information**

1. Are you male or female? Please tick the most appropriate box:

Male	Female

2. What is your age? Please tick the most appropriate box:

18–24 years	25–35 years	36-49 years	50+ years

3. Do you own a cat or dog? Please tick the most appropriate box:

Cat	Dog

4. Have you ever had a pet which has been diagnosed with cancer, and did they receive chemotherapy? Please tick the most appropriate box:

Yes	No	Yes	No
Cancer d	liagnosis	Chemothera	py treatment

5. Have you had any personal experience of chemotherapy? Please tick the most appropriate box:

Yes	No

If you answered Yes, please tick all boxes which apply to you from the list below:

I have received chemotherapy treatment		
Someone I know has received chemotherapy treatment		
My pet has received chemotherapy treatment		
A pet owned by my friend/s or my family has received chemotherapy		
treatment		
I work within the health care industry		
I work within the veterinary industry		
Other, please specify.		

# **Section 2: Chemotherapy Treatment**

 $1. \ Please \ select \ (tick) \ which \ answer \ most \ closely \ describes \ how \ you \ feel \ about \ the \ statement:$ 

Tick the box which most closely describes how you feel about the following statements	Yes, very familiar, extensive knowledge/e xperience	Familiar, some knowledge /experience	Unfamiliar, not sure if knowledge/ experience is correct	Very unfamiliar, no experience or knowledge
Are you aware that				
chemotherapy can be used as				
part of the treatment protocol				
for animals diagnosed with				
cancer?				
Do you know what the benefits				
of chemotherapy are for				
humans?				
Do you know what the side				
effects of chemotherapy are for				
humans?				

2. In your own words, how would you describe how you feel about the use of chemotherapy treatm	ent in cats
and dogs diagnosed with terminal cancer?	

3. Benefits of chemotherapy, please select (tick) which answer most closely describes how you feel about the statement:

Tick the box which most closely describes how you feel about the following statements	Very acceptable	Acceptable	Neither acceptable or unacceptable	Unacceptable	Very unacceptable
Chemotherapy					
prevents the spread of					
cancer					
Chemotherapy					
decreases the risk of					
cancer reoccurring					
Chemotherapy shrinks					
and stabilises (prevents					
further growth) the					
tumour					

Chemotherapy kills			
cancer cells alongside			
other treatments			
Chemotherapy can			
extend life expectancy			
by 6-9 months (post			
cancer diagnosis)			

4. Side effects of chemotherapy, please select (tick) which answer most closely describes how you feel about the statement:

Tick the box which most closely describes how you feel about the following statements	Very acceptable	Acceptable	Neither acceptable or unacceptable	Unacceptable	Very unacceptable
Chemotherapy can cause vomiting					
Chemotherapy can					
cause hair loss					
Chemotherapy can					
cause inappetence (lack					
of appetite)					
Chemotherapy can					
cause weight loss					
Chemotherapy can					
cause weakness and					
lethargy					
Chemotherapy can					
cause depression					

5. In your opinion, would you say the benefits associated with chemotherapy treatment counter balance the common side effects associated with chemotherapy?

Yes	No

If you ticked yes, please state why you believe the benefits of chemotherapy counter balance the sid	le
effects of chemotherapy:	

If you ticked no, please state why you believe the benefits of chemotherapy do not counter balance the side effects of chemotherapy:

C November has been discussed with terminal arrest and you have alread to accompatible according

6. Your pet has been diagnosed with terminal cancer and you have elected to engage with a course of chemotherapy treatment. Below is a list of statements that describe your pet's quality of life during chemotherapy, please select (tick) which answer most closely describes how you feel about the statement:

Tick the box which most closely describes how you feel about the following statements	Very Acceptable	Acceptable	Neither acceptable or unacceptable	Unacceptable	Very Unacceptable
My pet does not play as much as normal during					
chemotherapy					

My pets activity is the same as			
normal during chemotherapy			
My pet sleeps more than			
usual during chemotherapy			
My pet eats normally during			
chemotherapy			
My pets seem depressed			
during chemotherapy			
compared to normal			
My pet has more good days			
then bad days during			
chemotherapy			
My pet trembles and shakes			
occasionally during			
chemotherapy			
My pet grooms normally			
during chemotherapy			
My pet experiences vomiting			
during chemotherapy			
My pet drinks normal			
amounts during chemotherapy			
1.			
My pet has diarrhoea during			
chemotherapy  My not is aware and happy			
My pet is aware and happy			
when I'm present during			
chemotherapy			
My pet is less active during			
chemotherapy			

7. Quality of life describes how multiple factors (for example, exercise level, happiness, interaction) come together to contribute to the general well-being of your pet.

Please rate your expectation of your pet's minimum quality of life (1 = poor quality of life and 10 = excellent quality of life) for the statements below by ticking the box associated with the number you select:

Your pet's quality of life before	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	1		3	<b>T</b>	3	U		0	,	10
undergoing chemotherapy	Poo	r							Exc	ellent
Your pet's quality of life during	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
chemotherapy	py									
	Poo	r		1	1		1	1	Exc	ellent
Your pet's quality of life after undergoing chemotherapy	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	y									
	Poo	r							Exc	ellent

8. If your pet was diagnosed with terminal cancer and you elected for a course of chemotherapy treatment, how long would you expect your pet to live for after chemotherapy treatment? Please tick the box which applies.

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1–3 months	3–6 months	6–12 months	1–2 years	3–5 years	5+ years
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9. Below is a list of statements, if your pet was diagnosed with terminal cancer please (tick) which answer most closely describes how you feel about the statement:

Tick the box which most closely describes how you feel about the following statements	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
Knowing the potential benefits					
of chemotherapy, I would opt					
for chemotherapy treatment for					
my pet					
Knowing the potential side					
effects of chemotherapy, I					
would opt for chemotherapy					
treatment for my pet					
I would opt for chemotherapy					
treatment if my pet will live for					
an extra 3 months with					
chemotherapy					
I would opt for chemotherapy					
treatment if my pet will live for					
an extra 12 months with					
chemotherapy					

Thank you for completing the survey.



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