

## ABOUT SUE

Sue is an adult female cat that hadn't been neutered when she was younger; she is now seven and came into see the vet as her owners had noticed changes in her.

## SYMPTOMS

- Stomach swelling that was getting increasingly bigger.
- Dripping blood from her back end.
- Licking her back end a lot more than usual.

She had however continued to eat, drink and run around as normal and had not been sick.

## SEEING THE VET

Her heart rate, temperature, chest, pulse and colour were checked first by the vet, all the readings were within normal range. Her abdomen was so swollen that nothing could be felt inside and her vulva had a sticky bloody discharge coming from it, which is what she had been trying to clean herself. To find out what was making her so swollen we needed to scan her abdomen to be able to diagnose an illness. The ultrasound picture showed that her uterus was full of fluid, which we were suspicious, was all pus as we could see some of it leaking out of her vulva. All this liquid couldn't get out, which caused the swelling we could see.

## DIAGNOSIS

This condition is called 'Pyometra.' The body's way to deal with this infection is to produce white blood cells which creates pus that was filling her uterus. This can be a life threatening illness if not noticed and treated early enough

## TREATMENT

The only way to cure a Pyometra is to neuter the animal as soon as possible. Neutering a female animal means taking away her uterus, which in this case was where all the infection was in Sue. The following day Sue came in first thing for her operation.

Her operation took an hour and a half and ran smoothly. Usually the size of a uterus being removed in a routine spay would struggle to register a weight on the scales, but the uterus removed weighed 0.8g. When Sue was weighed after her operation she had lost 1/3 of her body weight!!

## FOLLOWING HER OPERATION

Sue went home later that afternoon and recovered very well. She is now back to herself and enjoying being home with her owners again. No other symptoms of Pyometra will affect Sue, she is completely cured from this illness.

Sue

