found to be a higher risk area for RTAs than towns, cities or suburban locations. Cats that were reported by their owners to hunt at the roadside were found to be at a greater risk of an RTA, as well as cats whose owners classified the stretch of road just by their house as being a 'long straight section of

road'. No significant associations were found between coat colour, breed, sex or neuter status and risk of an RTA. Results from the study may help owners and rehoming centres to more accurately assess the risk of an RTA and may also facilitate better management to reduce the risk of an RTA.

Road Traffic Accidents in cats attending emergency-care practices in the UK.

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BACKGROUND

Road traffic accidents (RTA) are a common veterinary presentation and are reportedly the most common cause of mortality in young cats. However, there are limited publications describing risk factors and survival for RTA. This study aimed to estimate the prevalence of RTA in cats attending emergency out-of-hours clinics and to identify risk factors for RTA occurrence and survival to discharge.

METHODS

Using the VetCompass database, RTA cases were identified from the electronic patient records of cats attending Vets Now emergency clinics between January 2012 and February 2014. Mixed effects logistic regression was used to identify risk factors for RTA occurrence. Logistic regression was used to identify risk factors associated with survival to discharge.

RESULTS

There were 1,407 RTA cases identified from 33,053 cats attending 50 emergency clinics during the study period, resulting in an apparent prevalence of 4.3% (95% Confidence Interval (C.I.) 4.0%–4.5%). Cats aged 6months–2years had increased odds of RTA in comparison to all other ages (Odds Ratio (OR) range 0.14–0.67 for all other ages, $p < 0.0001$). Purebred cats (OR 0.53 95% C.I. 0.40–0.69 $p < 0.001$) and female cats (OR 0.79 95% C.I. 0.75–0.96 $p < 0.001$) had lower odds of RTA compared with crossbred and male cats respectively. A slight seasonal trend was present, with higher odds of RTA in the autumn (OR 1.19 95% C.I. 1.01–1.40 $p < 0.0001$) in comparison with the spring. Spinal (OR 2.44 95% C.I. 1.41–4.25 $p = 0.002$) and abdominal injury (OR 2.71 95% C.I. 1.32–5.53 $p = 0.006$) were associated with increased odds of death prior to discharge, and skin injury was associated with reduced odds (OR 0.27 95% C.I. 0.16–0.46 $p < 0.001$) in comparison with cats without those injury types. Increasing count of injuries were associated with increased odds of death before discharge (OR 1.6 95% C.I. 1.29–1.98 $p < 0.001$).

CONCLUSION

About one in 25 cats presenting to emergency-care practice have experienced an RTA event. Younger cats, males, and crossbreeds are at increased odds of RTA. The body-area injured and the count of injuries were associated with survival to discharge. Awareness of these risks may aid veterinarians to predict the risk of RTA for owners and to improve prognostic estimates for recovery.

Attitudes to and opinions of neutering in dogs: results of a canine reproduction survey of veterinary surgeons

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An on-line survey was conducted to gather information about canine neutering. Invitations were placed on AnimalOracle.com, e-mailed to vetsurgeon.org members and

sent via press releases. Questionnaire items were attitude statements with 5 answer options (Strongly agree, Agree, Disagree, Strongly disagree, No opinion) asking veterinary surgeons (VS) about perceptions and options to prevent breeding and sexual behaviours in dogs; most were asked on separate pages and respondents could not return to a question once they had moved on. A total of 411 VS completed the survey: 71% were female, two-thirds were <40 years of age. Most recommended neutering of males and females although there was awareness of various alternatives to surgical neutering: 80% named Alizin to treat misalliance; 33% Suprelorin for temporary medical castration and 27% named Ypzoalan to treat BPH.

Question:	Yes		No	
	N	(%)	N	(%)
Do you recommend neutering as a routine procedure for all dogs ?	310	(76)	100	(24)
Do you always recommend surgical neutering for female dogs not intended for breeding?	386	(94)	24	(6)
... male ...?	251	(62)	157	(38)
Do you consider the various options available to owners when recommending methods to prevent unwanted puppies ?	248	(60)	162	(40)
Do you offer owners alternatives to surgical neutering?	211	(52)	198	(48)

Guest (guest)

IP: 18.207.199.55

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