

# Veterinary Healthcare Team Fact Sheet: Feline Injection Site Sarcoma (FISS)

## BACKGROUND

- ▶ Cancer of mesenchymal origin, mostly fibrosarcomas
- ▶ Injections, sutures, or microchips may cause a chronic inflammatory reaction, predisposing to FISS
- ▶ FISS has moderate metastatic potential, but an aggressive local behavior with a high recurrence rate if incompletely removed

## CLINICAL SIGNS

- ▶ The tumor can be fixed or mobile, ulcerated and/or with a necrotic fluid-filled center
- ▶ Remember the 3-2-1 rule:
  - 3) Perform an incisional biopsy if a lump persists for 3 months,
  - 2) becomes larger than 2 cm, or
  - 1) continues to increase in size 1 month after an injection

## DIAGNOSIS

- ▶ The cytology of the mass can be highly suggestive of FISS. Histological examination is mandatory to confirm the diagnosis since the inflammatory process surrounding the tumor makes it difficult to differentiate cancer from inflammation
- ▶ CT is recommended to determine local invasion (often extensive) and to detect lung metastasis



## THERAPY

- ▶ The most successful treatment is a wide or compartmental surgical excision (at first attempt) +/- radiotherapy
- ▶ A wide surgical resection should involve a margin of at least 3-5 cm and should be 2 fascial planes deep
- ▶ Chemotherapy can be used as part of a multimodal or palliative treatment

## PROGNOSIS

A wide surgical resection performed by an experienced surgeon increases the chance of long term survival

