

HEALTH STUDY RESULTS

What is lymphoma?

Lymphoma is a cancer of lymphocytes, a type of white blood cell, and is one of the most common cancers in cats.



Number of cats in study

562,446

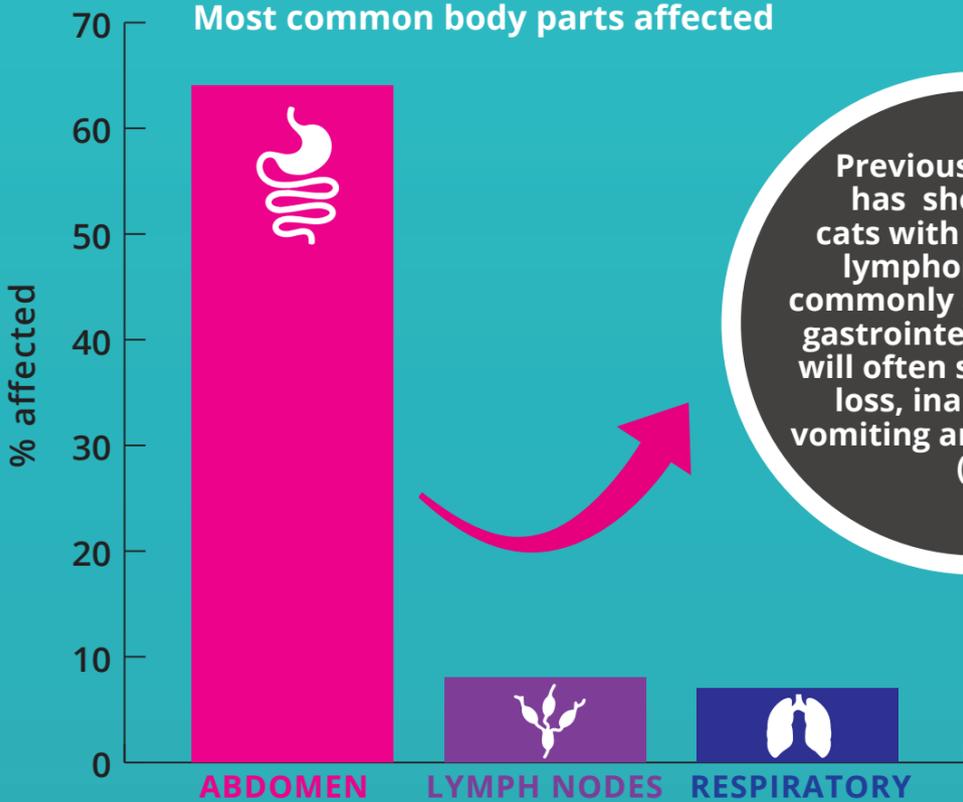
Percentage of cats with laboratory-confirmed lymphoma

0.05%

Average age at first diagnosis

11.0 years

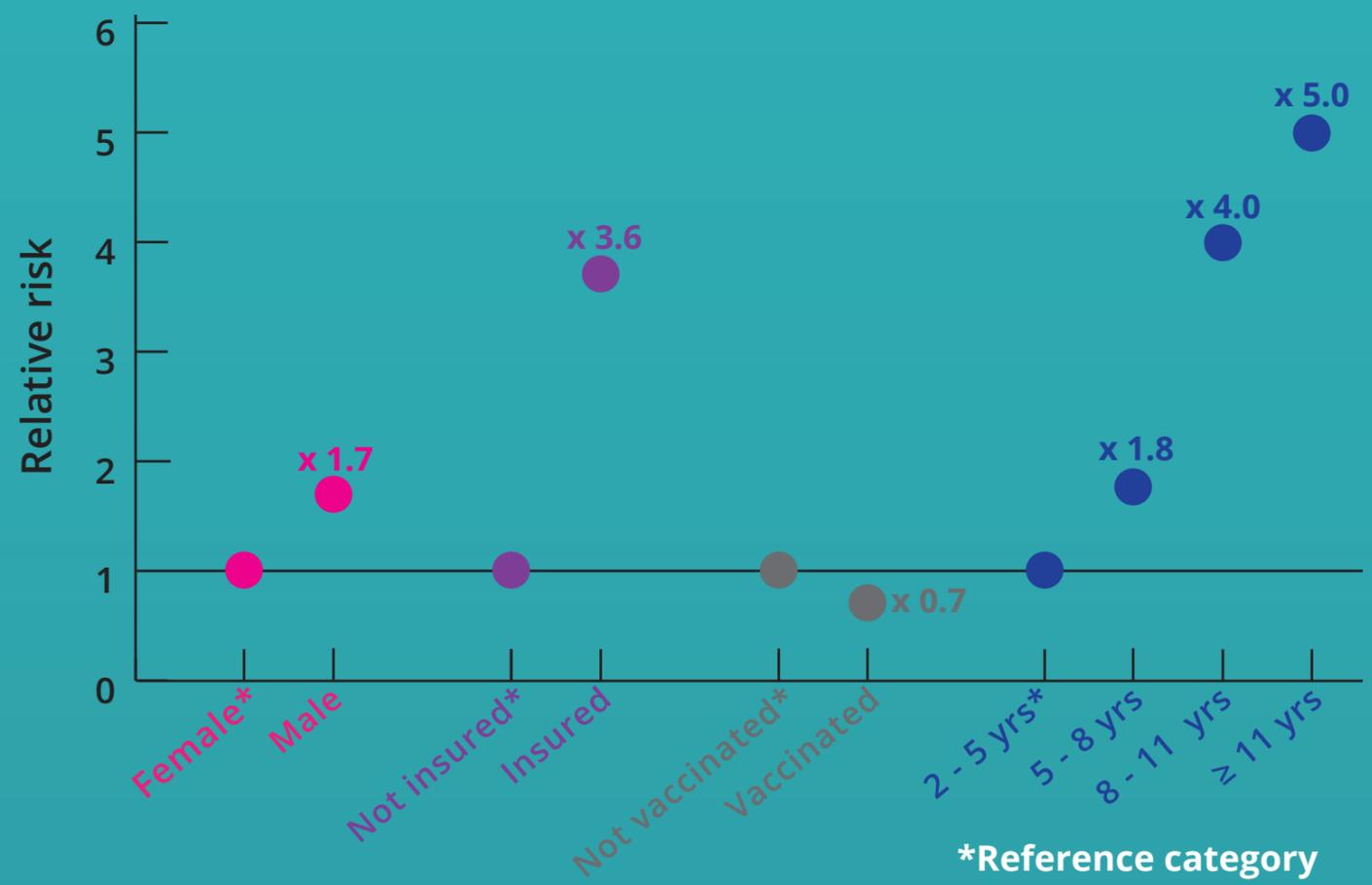
Most common body parts affected



Previous research has shown that cats with abdominal lymphoma (most commonly affecting the gastrointestinal tract) will often show weight loss, inappetence, vomiting and diarrhoea (1)

1. S.N. Ettinger (2003) "Principles of treatment for feline lymphoma" Clin Tech Small Anim Pract, 18

What factors are associated with lymphoma diagnosis?



Breed and environmental exposures studied were not found to influence the risk of lymphoma diagnosis.

CONCLUSIONS:

Owners of older and male cats should be alert to the possibility of lymphoma.

Increased diagnosis in insured cats suggests strong welfare gains for insured cats.

CLICK TO READ

Economu et al. (2020) "Incidence and risk factors for feline lymphoma in UK primary-care practice" Journal of Small Animal Practice

RVC VetCompass <https://www.rvc.ac.uk/vetcompass> carries out welfare research based on anonymised clinical information shared from over 30% of UK veterinary practices. We are very grateful to the owners and veterinary professionals who contribute to VetCompass research.