



Feline Fix by Five

Early spay/neuter = Better outcomes for kittens, clients, and your clinic.

Visit felinefixbyfive.org

WHAT IS IT?

Feline Fix by Five encourages veterinarians to **recommend spay/neuter for kittens before five months of age**—before they reach sexual maturity.

This campaign supports your conversations with clients who have kittens, offering clear, proactive guidance during early wellness visits. While all cats benefit from sterilization, Feline Fix by Five focuses on preventing that first heat, that first litter, and the early behavioral issues that can emerge in adolescence.

Fixing by five months is a safe, evidence-based standard recognized across the veterinary field. It leads to better patient outcomes, happier clients, and smoother surgeries, with fewer complications and faster recovery times.

WHO ELSE IS DOING IT?

The recommendation to spay/neuter by five months is backed by leading voices in veterinary medicine, including:

- American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)
- FelineVMA (formerly American Association of Feline Practitioners)
- American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA)
- Association of Shelter Veterinarians (ASV)



It is also supported by many state veterinary medical associations and boards, as well as respected organizations including The Cat Fanciers Association (CFA), National Animal Care & Control Association (NACA), ASPCA, EveryCAT Health Foundation, PetSmart Charities, and more.

Read the full Veterinary Task Force [consensus document](#).

WHY FIVE MONTHS?

Medical Benefits

- Cats spayed **before their first heat** have a **91% lower risk of mammary cancer**—a disease that claims ~75,000 cats annually. The **risk of dying from mammary cancer** is estimated to be **1,500 times higher than rabies** in U.S. pets.
- Spaying also eliminates the risk of **pyometra**, a potentially fatal uterine infection.

Behavioral Benefits

- Reduces roaming, aggression, spraying and marking, yowling, and heat-related behaviors.
- Promotes retention: In 2023, **78% of cats surrendered to shelters were unaltered**, according to Shelter Animals Count.

Community Benefits

- Prevents unwanted litters and reduces shelter intake.
- Eases pressure on animal control services, which receive high volumes of cat-related complaints.
- Helps curb feral cat populations rooted in abandonment and unplanned litters.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

Your recommendation matters. Studies show many cat owners are confused about timing:

- **17% don't know when to fix**
- **42% believe 6 months is appropriate** (cats can be pregnant by 4 months!)
- **14% believe 9+ months is acceptable**

By recommending **spay/neuter before five months**, you can:

- ✓ Protect your patients
- ✓ Educate your clients
- ✓ Support community health
- ✓ Align with modern veterinary standards

READY TO GET STARTED?

Head to felinefixbyfive.org to:

- **Add your clinic** to our provider directory
- **Download client-friendly resources**, including print handouts and social graphics.
- **Promote** Feline Fix by Five on your website or in your exam rooms
- **Explore the full Feline Fix by Five Media Kit:** [View Toolkit](#)

Feline Fix by Five is a collaborative initiative from Marian's Dream and United Spay Alliance
Fix For Life. Fix by Five Months.