

Lecture Three

BEYOND REPRODUCTION: RE-CONCEPTUALIZING OVARIES AND HEALTHY LONGEVITY

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Objectives: To understand the association between timing of spaying and healthy longevity in pet dogs and to examine evidence that supports a new line of thinking: Ovaries are part of a system that promotes longevity

Summary: Conventional wisdom says spaying (ovariohysterectomy) promotes health. However, recent evidence from 3 different species — dog, human, mouse — points to a potentially contradictory conclusion: Ovaries are part of a system that promotes healthy longevity. This lecture will take a look at this experimental evidence, encouraging a systems thinking approach that lends fresh perspective to the timing-of-spaying debate.

References

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