

Election Manager



Canada/Pacific time:
2018-03-09 09:53:55



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Comments

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Question	Comment
Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?	I support a absolute ban on declawing without exception that is enforceable by law
Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?	My experience has been that when a cat was declawed in a proper fashion, the return of my patients to their normal behaviour was rapid and they suffered no long term consequences. I have never felt that it was inhumane procedure to subject a cats to when it was the best possible solution to prevent injury to owners or their belongings. The bad press around declawing seems to be to have resulted from the fact that many vets are not proper trained in the best methods for doing this procedure, so historically there have been many botched declawings done and with less than great outcomes for the pets or the owners. However, I still support a ban but with justifiable exceptions. Like abortion, it's something best left between a well trained vet and the pet owner to decide, that is to say I'm pro-choice on this matter, not in favour of a full societally imposed ban.
Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?	Declawed cats can have long and happy lives. It should be a last alternative to euthanasia. All options need to be explored including rehoming and surrendering adoptable cats. Those that are going to be unlikely to find new homes may be considered for declaw if all options to manage them fail.
Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?	It is imperative that the ban on feline declawing is in the form of a BYLAW, and not a practice standard or guideline. This will keep the decision in the hands of veterinarians. A practise standard puts decision making power in the hands of non-veterinarians (council, staff, or it's delegate). A bylaw ban on declawing would be consistent with the existing bans on other medically unnecessary surgeries (ear cropping and tail docking). Creating a bylaw ban on declawing would make BC the second province in Canada to do so, illustrating our leadership on this important animal welfare issue.
Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?	I feel that the ban on declawing should be strict, without exception.

any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

I feel the decision to declaw should be made between the owner and the veterinarian after all things have been considered. If done properly, the procedure causes minimal problems for the animal but they must thereafter be kept confined for their safety and well being.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

The wording questions 9 and 10 are very confusing. I work in specialty practice and no longer perform surgery. I have declawed cats in the past. I support a ban on routine declawing and would not offer it. I do not support an absolute ban on declawing as there are situations in which failure to declaw the cat will lead to owner relinquishment or euthanasia. If the home is otherwise excellent I feel it is in the cat's best interest to stay with the original committed owner rather than risk euthanasia in a shelter or abandonment by a less committed new owner.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

Other countries that have banned declawing for many years have not experienced negative fallout for the cats because of it. I strongly feel that we should be following their lead. Our job is to advocate for the animals, and it is clear that declaw procedures are not in the cats' best interest. We need to educate people about this, and offer them solutions other than declawing.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

ban declawing - it is embarrassing that we even have to discuss this issue

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

I support a complete ban on the declawing of cats by making this a bylaw of our college. Some of your questions are trying to coerce people into supporting declawing for "some" medical needs, which are strictly for the humans and not the cats. I only support a complete ban on declawing. It is an inhuman practice.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

It is an unnecessary procedure which can create more behavioral and medical issues for the patient. In my opinion, it is more inhumane than canine tail docking and ear cropping. The patient will suffer for the remainder of it's life for the convenience of the owner...unacceptable.

Do you have

I think there should some mandatory documentation submitted before a declaw is authorized

any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? Thank you for bringing this issue forward

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? I used to perform tendonectomies and possibly one or 2 declaws when I first started veterinary practice and as a student. I have not done either of these procedures in the last 4 years. I think there is enough evidence to suggest that declawing has a negative impact on the quality of life of cats (long-term pain and arthritis) and in many cases can lead to aggressive behaviours. I disagree with the argument that we should cause animals to suffer to improve human quality of life (medical need, immunocompromised individuals).

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? I think an absolute ban is the most humane and ethical option; however, I also would support a ban that restricted to non-routine/therapeutic declaws instead of no ban at all.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? Question 5 doesn't allow for less than one procedure a year to be selected. Question 11 is poorly worded and confusing. I am strongly against routine partial digit amputation but I feel it is an issue that should be decided between a veterinarian and client.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? You failed to mention that declawing is sometimes required for medical reasons such as paronychia or neoplasia. It is warranted when it is medically necessary.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? I would only support declawing if medically necessary for the pet. I.e if there was a medical issue with the toe or nail bed or if the cat due to seizures etc kept on getting their nails traumatized / torn

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? There should be complete ban on feline declaw.

any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

I emailed the council before, but to be more specific; If a breeder sells declawed cats, which the law allows, and the CVBC prevents them from doing so, can the breeder sue the CVBC for loss of income? I know of a Serval cat breeder who sells declawed cats. We are not the clinic that does it for this breeder, but I believe they use laser. We have done cat declaws with the laser and they seem in little pain the next day, but I have seen cats done with the guillotine method that have been sore for a month. Perhaps we should regulate the method as opposed to the procedure, that seems to be with in the mandate of the Veterinary Act of BC. We should not be trying to stop people from doing what they are legally allowed to do.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

I am struck by the impression that the author[s] of this survey have little grasp of what the veterinary profession entails. I have performed countless feline front declaws over 3 decades of practice, and I, too, can learn. Our Veterinary Profession needs to get with the times and take a leadership role in matters of animal well-being. Amputations and mutilation for the sake of human convenience are simply unacceptable, one-sided perversions of the human-animal bond. Implementing this ban though a professional CVBC Bylaw is a necessary first step to the minimum standard of practice.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

In this day and age there should be no ethical veterinarians performing PDA surgery. However, since ethics and compassion doesn't seem to be enough to stop veterinarians from performing this surgery clearly there needs to be an enforceable, punishable Bylaw.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

Declawing cats other than for an absolute necessity ie life vd death should be absolutely banned and statefvin a bylaw which is punishable

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

This should be a bylaw not a practice standard.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

I believe that we need a bylaw banning routine declawing.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? The purpose of a ban is to bring, by force, those who have fallen behind the standard of care into compliance. For this, we need a bylaw. I feel it is critical for veterinarians in BC to make clear that this practice is not acceptable and risks the health and wellbeing of the animals whose care we are charged with.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? I practice in an area where the procedure is no longer requested due to public perceptions of animal welfare and normal behaviours.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? Question 11. What does this mean? Is this about enforcing a strict ban or the exceptions on declaws?
Need more info on the scope of a practice standard vs a bylaw in dealing with restrictions around declaws if this is what is meant by "effectiveness and enforceable".

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? Consult with feline experts to get the science rather than an in-house search of the literature.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? A ban is not necessary. We should already only perform a procedure when there is a condition of informed consent in place. And if a procedure is being performed in a substandard way (ie using nail trimmers to imprecisely cut thru the digits instead of a proper planned and executed amputation) then the practitioner can already be held to task with our existing bylaws. I repeat, a ban is not necessary and is just pandering to public hysteria about this issue.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? I have never performed a declaw surgery. I feel that as a routine procedure, it is invasive and unnecessary and can result in serious consequences for the animal, physically and mentally. I think that declawing for any purpose other than medical necessity for the animal should be banned.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? Let's make it a blanket ban on all cosmetic surgery. No tail docks, ear crops, dewclaw removals or feline declaws unless medically necessary.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

I support an outright ban on feline declawing without any exception. Any medical condition (such as a neoplasm of the digit) requiring digit amputation would still be acceptable as a legal standard of care under an outright ban.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

I have had a declawed cat of my own. Post operative analgesia was optimal and recovery was rapid. She did not exhibit any signs of neurosis or changes in her behavioral patterns. She also remained a successful hunter, regularly bringing rabbits home to 'share' with the family.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

Please ban declawing

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

This would provide an excellent "Round-Table" professional discussion opportunity... And if the counsel takes these steps, they need to back them up by supporting their own regulations with appropriate monitoring, tools for client education, and increased public education... If the mandate is to protect the public, then the college needs to protect the public from themselves too... just like ear cropping, still happens... just happens at some shady back-door... It makes those vets who are willing to support a declaw ban, feel guilty and scared, and angry that pets will still suffer the procedure, only now... at a cost to the vet who no longer has that income, at a cost to the human who has to seek out back door surgery and is angry at vets, and at a cost to the pet who may be exposed to unsafe, unclean and painful back-door surgery... This requires CLEAR directives...

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

I have been licensed in BC for almost 38 years. I have been waiting for over 40 years for veterinarians to wake up and refuse to perform this barbaric procedure.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

Declawing of cats (or any other animal for that matter) under any circumstances other than genuine clinical need of the patient (not the owner) is extremely ethically unsound and should be barred along with all other cosmetic modifications of pets.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

We, as a practice, have done 1 or 2 declaws in the last 10 years. We do not perform them without a lot of client education and attempts at other solutions but no cat is best served by ending up at the shelter.

Council's
consideration?

Do you have
any further
thoughts or
comments for
CVBC

Current evidence suggests declawing would only benefit the patient in very rare circumstances, if ever. I would be concerned that exceptions in questions 9 and 10 may be too vague and/or lenient.

Council's
consideration?

Do you have
any further
thoughts or
comments for
CVBC

I have trained my clients for decades in the reasons for not declawing, and I have never once been asked to euthanize a cat because I wouldn't declaw, and have not even been asked to declaw a cat in many years. I do not believe that, provided clients are educated propely, a ban on declawing will result in euthanasias.

Council's
consideration?

Do you have
any further
thoughts or
comments for
CVBC

Thank you for doing these surveys ! A good way to get practitioners thinking, and voicing their opinion.

Council's
consideration?

Do you have
any further
thoughts or
comments for
CVBC

Pass the vote to ban feline declawing

Council's
consideration?

Do you have
any further
thoughts or
comments for
CVBC

Please note that the wording of several of the questions are confusing. This ambiguity may lead to an incorrect assessment of the views of the membership based on the results of this survey. This is why I have provided additional information in each box following an ambiguous question. Thank you.

Council's
consideration?

Do you have
any further
thoughts or
comments for
CVBC

I think any ban would be equally enforceable as a practice standard or bylaw, but the wording and specifics of the ban should be developed in conjunction with or by the majority of registrants.

Council's
consideration?

Do you have
any further
thoughts or
comments for
CVBC

I would like to see registrants have the opportunity to vote on a CVBC bylaw with respect to declawing.

Council's consideration?

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC

Declawing should only be done when amputation of the last phalanx is warranted medically for example osteomyelitis of the last phalanx when it is not responsive to antibiotic therapy to save cat's life and it's quality of life.

Council's consideration?

If medical condition of the owner is jeopardized , he or she should not have a pet to begin with, otherwise owner might get bit and we are not going to extract the teeth!

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC

I do non-routine declaws but fewer than 1-5 which is the lowest option in the survey. More like 1 every 5-10 years.

Council's consideration?

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC

There are very rare cases in which onychectomy would be medically appropriate - eg nailbed disease in the cat that only affects several digits but would be expected to affect all digits eventually. This could be a rationale for performing prophylactic onychectomy.

Council's consideration?

I do not feel that the practice standard would be as enforcable as the bylaw, but I think we need more information from the CVBC to answer this question confidently.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC

Please note my comment regarding human medical need. Have not seen this in 25 years. Have not seen any literature supporting human medical need for declaw. Think this is definitely NOT a reason to declaw a cat

Council's consideration?

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC

I hope the discussion of 'declawing or not' will soon be a topic of the past; it is a cruel and I can't believe that we honestly still even have to think about it if we support it or not

Council's consideration?

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC

No.

Council's consideration?

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC

Declawing, though not ideal and only as a last resort after trying all the things listed above, should still be allowed at the discretion of the practitioner. With the advancements in surgical techniques (ie laser surgery) and pain medication I believe that we can save cats from euthanasia, abandonment, a life in a shelter, injury and stress by declawing with very little impact on their long term comfort. We have to be careful that we do not make a decision that

Council's consideration? will actually cause more pain and distress to cats for all the reasons I listed above. It could be compared to the law against slaughter of horses in the US. Though it sounds good it has actually caused more distress as horses are abandoned or shipped long distances to slaughter in Canada or worse Mexico where regulations are less stringent. We have to consider all the implications of a ban not just what appears best on the surface.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? Why is this an issue. I don't think cvbc should be regulating this at all. This is definitely not a practice standard issue but a moral issue. Is cvbc responsible for people's morals. Ethics are not the same as morals. Morals are an opinion. Are the veterinarians in Alberta of lower moral standards because they can still dock dogs tails? Have you had a de clawed cat in your home? Have you watched them recover after the procedure with appropriate analgesia? They do very, very well. My opinion. Is the spay or castration procedure next on the list? Is it wrong to neuter you indoor cat? Where is the cvbc going to stop applying regulations to please special interest groups?

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? I am glad the CVBC is taking this issue seriously and hope to see a Bylaw banning declawing soon. Such a ban has been in place for decades in Europe and has not led to a sudden increase of cats abandoned by their owners. As veterinarians we need to take the lead in animal welfare; we owe it to our patients.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? If an absolute ban is not in place, some individuals will possibly use this as a loophole to continue declaw. The presence of pathology, such as cancer, deformed polydactyl toes that ingrow, etc... should remain the only acceptable reason for this surgery.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? I support a ban on routine declawing for convenience purposes, but not for medically or behaviorally necessary reasons. I fear that if vets stop doing the procedures all together, people will try to do it themselves or have other non-veterinarians perform the procedure, which will lead to pain and suffering in those animals.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? If people want a cat declawed, why not do it? Opens the door for black market surgery? Declawed cats can fight, they just use their fangs. Where does regulating society stop.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? Shameful survey. I am appalled that this survey could come from our college. What were you thinking?

Do you have I have performed declawing using a surgical laser for many years and have not experienced the

any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

lasting affects that have been described by those against the procedure. I have done it as a last resort in those situations where coexistence of cat and owner is untenable because of behavioural problems where modification of that behaviour has failed.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

The ONLY reason we would declaw a cat is for a medical reason that could not be treated medically (feline onychitis if unable to medicate , onychodystrophy etc)

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

I would like to see it either a complete ban or no ban at all. As soon as conditions are added then some veterinarians or people will just find a way to work around to getting those conditions met even though then just want a declawed cat.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

Just ban it altogether no exceptions because people will find loopholes.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

The entire declaw debate is based on the uninformed opinions of members of the public and of veterinarians who have no direct experience with the procedure and have never owned or had a close relationship with a declawed cat. The decision to declaw should be made responsibly between the veterinarian and the pet owner. Declawing performed by an experienced and skilled practitioner using laser incisions and appropriate post operative pain management causes minimal short term consequences and only very rare longer term adverse effects on the cat while having the potential to benefit the cat -human relationship in a profound manner. It's legality should not be determined simply by asking the registrants of the college to vote on if they do or do not believe declawing should be permitted. As with many issues in society this is an example of a situation where we as a College should not be imposing majority rule on everyone else. We are no different than other sectors where sometimes the majority hold ill considered populist view points and maintain a closed mind to other opinions.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

A Bylaw regarding declawing is absolutely necessary to fully address all issues relating to this surgery. Having a mandatory practice standard is just not enough for veterinarians to take on the emotional and ethical burden of this horrible procedure and in the long run/overall scheme of things, does not result in the greater benefit of cats or the number of cats relinquished to shelters that are not adoptable.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for

Any ban with exceptions as listed gives to many outs for those that wish to continue the practice as an income generator. I have not performed the procedure in over 10 years and it has been no issue. The occasional request I get is usually a convenience request with no attempts to alter the

CVBC Council's consideration? behavior. The CVBC should not be condoning a procedure that is perceived, and in most cases rightly so, as cruel

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? I don't know the difference between the bylaws and practice standards. I do not support declawing.
Thank you for putting the survey together.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? I would also declaw a toe that had a medical condition that warranted it.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? I find these questions do not take into account that all cats may not be able to live in every household. the temperament of the cat is essential in this decision as declawing them can make their behavioral issues worse. There are times that surrendering the cat is the most humane thing to do, it is after all our responsibility to not only care for our patients physically but emotionally as well. We are their voice and frankly a cat may not be the most appropriate companion for everyone.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? Question 11 is biased or leading. It is improperly phrased. Effective survey questions are neutral. The question as phrased drives the respondent to answer "Agree." And does the respondent even know what he/she is agreeing to? This question breaks another survey rule: ask questions that your respondents can answer. Many won't know how to answer this question. This type of question often frustrates survey takers (and would-be takers, who look at this type of question and give up). In conclusion, this is a bad question that should be thrown out or rephrased.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? Here is MY VOTE. Enact a BYLAW BANNING FELINE DECLAWING EXCEPT IN CASES OF THE ANIMAL'S MEDICAL NEED. It really is that simple.

In conclusion, this has been an exceedingly frustrating survey to complete and serves no purpose other than to muddy the waters on an issue that is quite clear in the minds of registrants.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? I have only found it necessary do the procedure once in 15 years of practice. I do feel it should be within the scope of an individual practitioner to decide the appropriateness of the procedure on a case but case basis with the College providing clear guidelines (position statement, appropriate technique and pain management)

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? No one in our 12 vet practice performs these procedures anymore but in the face of some euthanasia cases I would not be entirely apposed

Council's consideration?

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

Don't get me wrong, I'm not in favour of routine declawing but I think banning performance of all declaw procedures goes too far. Practicing DVMs need to have the leeway to work with the situation of their individual clients and patients. Please don't turn the CVBC into another animal rights mouthpiece. How about working on what our regulatory body should be doing - ensuring competency of veterinarians in performing such a surgical procedure? I've seen what a lot of some DVMs call a declaw that is barely short of surgical incompetence. Adequate pain control, aseptic technique, and competent surgical skills are what the CVBC should be addressing as part of its mandate.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

I answered the question regarding alternate steps to declawing even though I haven't done a declaw recently because using those steps has meant no need to declaw for behavioural reasons but doesn't help where nail pathology might necessitate a partial declaw.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

I think feline de-clawing is mean. It seems largely unnecessary and is done to frequently as a convenience.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

I think that if any declaw procedures are allowed to continue, then included in the practice standard should be the provision that the procedures must be performed with appropriate pain control. If we are going to allow a procedure to be performed for the convenience or medical need of humans we need to make sure to do it ethically and ensure it is as painless as possible. Unfortunately some veterinarians pain control protocols are poor or inadequate, especially for a procedure such as this one, so some guidance as to what would be considered appropriate for this procedure would be appreciated in the practice standard.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

This important subject should be under a vote by BC veterinarians as a Bylaw vote. Other provinces (including BC) have adopted Bylaws dealing with animal welfare issues such as ear cropping etc as a Bylaw which demonstrates the professions dedication and commitment to eliminate these procedures from practice in BC by BC veterinarians.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

I would be disappointed if I was no longer able to provide declawing surgery for cats. I strongly believe it is a valuable service that I can provide clients who are losing their intimate relationship with their cat because of destructive behaviour. If the surgery and aftercare are done properly I am very comfortable it is a worthwhile procedure with minimal long-term negative aspects for the patient.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for

When considering human health risks, the oral cavity of cats is likely to harbor bacteria of increased significance over that found on their claws. The risk of cat bites will remain if a cat is declawed.

CVBC Council's consideration? Owners need to be educated on feline behavior and interacting with their cats to identify under what circumstances their cat scratches, altering their method of interacting with their cat in addition to ensuring their cat's psychological and physical needs are met. Providing cats with play time with appropriate toys, providing sufficient space and quiet areas for them to retreat to, avoiding interactions during feeding, seeking assistance with grooming or other procedures can reduce risks of scratches to humans.

While a mandatory standard and bylaw are likely to be as effective and enforceable, it is my understanding that bylaws must be approved by membership while standards can be passed by council without membership approval. For matters that relate to the medical practice of veterinary medicine, it should be the membership that is involved with drafting and approving the constraints. If a standard is pursued, the content of the standard and the wording of the standard should have membership input and be passed by membership vote.

Feline declawing is really a procedure of convenience in all circumstances. Animals require protection from procedures that are painful, unnecessary and solely for human benefit.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? I support declawing in very rare instances where it is truly in the best interests of the cat. E.g., amputation of toes due to injury or tumour; if the cat is already very bonded to an owner who becomes significantly immunocompromised and would have severe adverse health effects if scratched even accidentally; if all reasonable measures have been taken to stop significant harmful/destructive behaviour, the cat cannot be successfully rehomed, and its option is euthanasia or abandonment. I have been practicing nearly 7 years, have yet to perform the procedure, and strongly discourage it. Thank you for addressing this.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? I am happy this issue is being addressed.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? Declawing is never ok. Physicians are not qualified to make decisions about this procedure so that question is an insult to our profession. Behavior = convenience and is therefore an unethical reason to mutilate a cat's paws in a procedure that can not be rendered painless and is therefore a contravention of the primary legal and ethical duty of a veterinarian to alleviate animal suffering.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? Stop waffling and ban declawing! The only individuals in support of it are embarrassments to our profession.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? I do believe that "standards" are fully enforceable but for me, that is the wrong question..I strongly believe that restrictions on declawing of felines should be firmly entrenched in the bylaws so that this or future Councils cannot change the standards without a full consultation with and the approval of the Registrants. Further I believe that the bylaw should encompass a situation where declaws are "banned" unless approved by a panel or committee of Veterinarians and public members who are consulted and give or deny their approval on a case by case basis. I would also include a restriction on who can perform this surgery requiring that any veterinarian who wanted to be able to do the surgery would have to apply to the panel or committee for an endorsement on their licence based on general surgical expertise and evidence of applicable C.E. on this procedure and possibly evidence of one or more successful surgeries having been performed under the direct supervision of a veterinarian who has been previously endorsed. I would not be opposed if Board certified surgeons were exempted from the need to apply for such an endorsement?

P.S. Question #5 would have been better if there was a choice of "Less than 1 per year".

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

I think that the veterinarian and client should have the right to decide on feline declaws. I have personally owned declawed cats for over 40 years and I have not seen behavior problems or pain. The method of declawing has a great impact on the outcome and guillotine method should be prohibited. The studies that I have seen all focus on negative aspects but how many actually focus on positive outcomes? If we are look at painful procedures that cause behavioral changes and is for convenience of owners, then spays and neuters should be prohibited by that criteria.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

A ban needs to be a By-Law that cannot be changed at the will of Council/Registrar without membership involvement (thus not acceptable as only a practice standard). Any change to a Ban must require the vote of the registered membership.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

I think that an informed owner is capable of making a decision to declaw and veterinarians are capable of directing an owner to a veterinary that is willing to declaw a cat.
I am now retired, however, I have performed hundreds of declaw procedures and feel that it is an important aid in some cases to improve in the cat owner relationship

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

I do think there are a very few cases where declaw is the best option given..it is well done with adequate pain management and that the client is required to keep the kitty indoors or in a safe enclosure if outdoors. I do not support routine declawing. I think declawing is a latch ditch effort before euthanasia.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

If someone wants to euthanize their cat because it scratches the furniture or the kids they should be talked into surrendering the cat or re-homing. This will work if they cannot find a vet who will agree to euthanize it. I think vets should not make euthanasia an option here.
On the other hand, occasionally I have had the situation where the client requests a declaw of their exceptionally psychologically disturbed aggressive and dangerous cat rather than euthanizing it and after they have tried behavior modification therapies and calming medications. This client needs to be warned that the cat may still harm them with its teeth, but if they still want to proceed under these circumstances declaw hopefully will be better than euthanasia.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

the public sees a ban on veterinarians from doing procedures to be big brother- ish, why can't we as veterinarians decide what we should or should not do? I don' t think cats should be declawed, dogs should be debarked, defanged, ear cropped or tail docked, why do we have to ban vets from doing these procedures? The CVMA has had position statements on these things for years, it doesn't stop them from still being done

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

We should be supporting cats, declawing a cat is inhumane, always unnecessary, painful and there are many other alternatives. The CVBC we should support humane animal care and educate owners on alternatives. People who insist on declawing should not be cat owners, just as people who do not provide necessary care to their pets are often banned from pet ownership by the SPCA

Council's consideration?

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC

I think there should be an absolute ban

Council's consideration?

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC

Must be a ban. Must be a bylaw. CVBC should educate registrants re the fact that behaviour can be addressed other ways and human reasons are invalid due to increased risk of more dangerous biting

Council's consideration?

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC

I feel that when declawing a cat so they will not scratch immune compromised people or children will not be effective because cats may switch to biting if unable to scratch.

Council's consideration?

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC

5. How many "non-routine/therapeutic" declaw procedures do you perform per year?
Less than 1 per year

Council's consideration?

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC

Hi, I strongly believe that we need to draw the line here based on what is best for our patients, and that is a ban on declaws. I voted no to the ban with exceptions questions because I don;t think that these are acceptable reasons to declaw. If we don't stand up for this then who will?
Thanks for listening to us and setting up a vote on the issue.

Council's consideration?

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC

I have preformed declaws in the past for reasons of safety to owners and their children but have not done any in the past ten years. I still think there is a place for it in very distinct situations.

Council's consideration?

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC

It seems to me that the bylaws are much more effective in enforcing a "ban" - Practice standards do not seem as strong and are more subject to interpretation and laxity on this issue. Thank you for addressing this important issue.

Council's consideration? When I go to check answers the #3. and after the "if undecided", "abstain" is not quite accurate - should read "not applicable".

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? How do we make sure that an owner has tried to do everything to prevent declawing and not just try to get it done by lying to the veterinarian? I think this is the biggest challenge when there are "exceptions".

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? I am thankful for this type of communication and other recent communication from the CVBC to it's members.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? I feel that only by making it a bylaw provision and enforceable will be able to stop the practice of declawing.

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Comments

490 results on 5 pages: << < Page 2 > >> ▾

Question	Comment
Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?	Making this public (as opposed to a standard) will generate a lot of publicity. it will therefore save the veterinarian from having to explain the reasons for declining to declaw in quite so much detail and so often. It provides a way "off the hook" for vets, which is always welcome.
Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?	I will comply with the eventual consensus and bylaw guidelines but I do think there are occasional cases where declaw is useful. I don't find cats have long term pain. We are a cat practice and have done 2 declaws in 7 years but see many declawed cats from Quebec and Ontario who seem just fine to me. We use the VASG blocks, hydro in the premed, and metacam for declaws and this seems to work fine. If it continues to be allowed under restricted circumstances I suggest a recommended analgesic protocol or at least guidelines for multimodal pain management including the VASG blocks, opioid and Nsaid shot and to go home if cat's renal function can tolerate it. (Usually not a concern as declaws typically are young cats)
Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?	I feel very strongly that routine declawing should not be permitted. I believe that in certain exceptional cases declawing should be permitted, for example in cases of physician-documented human medical need or if the only acceptable alternative is euthanasia.
Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?	Declawing should be up to the veterinarian and client to decided if necessary or not. Should try to perform other things first before going to declawing, and must inform the client of the process and cons of it too.
Do you have any further thoughts or	I don't think banning declawing, whether with or without exceptions, is necessary. I think owner education is the way to go, and leaving it up to the veterinarian to ultimately make the decision

comments for CVBC Council's consideration? at the practice level whether they want to do declawing, based on the situation and their comfort level with the procedure.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? Feline declawing should be banned without exception, and I believe this should be a bylaw.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? This survey is very poorly designed. It clearly is attempting to gather a preponderance of data from practitioners who still declaw cats. The way the questions are asked, when results are reported, it will be impossible to answer the question "how many CVBC registrants support a bylaw ban on feline declawing" and "how many CVBC registrants support a Practice Standard banning feline declawing." I don't know whether this is deliberate or just really shoddy work. A Standard would be able to be changed by a majority of Council at any time. That is not acceptable for such a serious animal welfare issue. We already answered a survey last year stating clearly that a majority of us support a BYLAW BAN. These efforts to enact a practice standard are an unacceptable compromise that further consolidates power in the hands of CVBC Council and staff (who change over time and clearly are not up to date in animal welfare science). It is shameful that more than a year after registrants weighed in on this issue initially, the CVBC is still spending time and money looking into this further. This is OUR money, our fees. Please do the right thing and allow us to actually vote (no more surveys) on a bylaw ban vs a standard vs no ban. And explain these clearly to registrants. The current leadership of the CVBC will be seen as being on the right side of history if you act on this, or will be seen as wasting registrants' time and money resisting the inevitable and allowing cats to be harmed in contravention of all available science. Which side of history do you want to be on?

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? I cannot understand the high complication rate reported by people opposed to declawing. We should ban declawing by veterinarians with high complication rates. In my experience, complications are rare, possibly zero, and current analgesia approaches lead to very positive outcomes.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? This seems like a very old debate. I do not remember the last time that a client asked or requested this procedure. Ten to fifteen years ago I felt that there were circumstances under which I would agree to declaw a cat such as the owners would surrender it to a shelter or euthanize if we didn't do the declaw, but we have been very successful in educating owners about options and why declawing is a bad choice. Honestly I think we tell people that it is no longer allowed/legal, I believe we based this on some previous statements?? To my knowledge no one even asks us to declaw cats anymore, which is good!

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? All correspondence from The College, whether analogue or electronic, should include the title Dr. For example Dr. First Name, Surname. This format reflects professionalism, proper etiquette as well as due respect for each Registrant.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? Support TOTAL BAN on Declawing. No Exceptions
Declawing in cats should be banned completely.
Bylaw needed.
Behavioural modification can be done.
Many alternatives.
Education from beginning.
Educate DOCTORS and Team how to educate people and their cats.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? We are the voice of the animal. We must speak on their behalf. It is never acceptable to maim an animal for our convenience, as owning a cat is a responsibility not a right.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? I support an outright ban on feline declawing, not the creation of a Practise Standard.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? My further comment relates to the human medical need issue:
In certain situations I would consider other mental/physical needs of the cat-if the human animal bond was strong and I did not perceive the cat to be a good candidate for re-homing and if the human had followed all directions of household enrichment, stress reduction, etc., then I would consider a declaw.
I have done this once in 29 years so this is truly an exception.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? I would assume, on question 11, it would be just as effective, however I do not know the legalities that come into play.
Question 5, I have done 1 non-routine declaw in the last 5 years. In 2014

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection."

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? This entire survey is so flawed and I am appalled that any professional organization (and the one I belong to) has even sent it out. The questions are extremely poorly worded and ambiguous - some can't be answered at all. When I started in practice in BC after graduation from WCVM (in 1985) I did perform declaws (although rarely) as everyone was "expected" to and it was considered almost routine. Thank goodness we have progressed a long way since then. The last time I "routinely" declawed a cat was in 1989, and I did one more declaw in 1994 for "behavioural" reasons. I have done none since 1994 and I will NEVER again declaw a cat and I will fight for making it illegal. It is an inhumane, terrible practice that HAS to stop. And please in

the future when making surveys for the CVBC for cats, or requesting input from practitioners about cat related issues, can you include the board certified feline practitioners in your discussions? We are so fortunate to have them in our province and you obviously did not consult with them. Again I am totally dismayed and disgusted that the professional organization that I was once so proud to belong to has sunk to such a low level as indicated by this survey. And I was starting to think that animal welfare has come a long way since I graduated 33 years ago - this survey makes me rethink my opinion on that. If we as veterinarians don't stand up for animal welfare then who is going to?

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

I support a ban on declawing with the exception only of when it is needed for the health of the cat (ie nail bed disease, trauma etc). Secondly, does this address declawing of exotic cats (lions tigers, servals, etc) as pets or in zoological situations? Finally, does this cover tendonectomy?

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

I hope that the responses to each of the 3 options (questions 8, 9 & 10) are only considered together and not separately i.e. a vote for non-support for 8 and 9 is considered ONLY IN CONJUNCTION WITH a vote for ban in 10).

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

The CVBC does not have the manpower, the financial resources or the ability in any way to address and enforce a CVBC Bylaw provision addressing declawing. We are still waiting more than a year to have complaints and persons practicing veterinary medicine without a licence to be addressed even for an initial review.

Placing a restriction on ownership of an animal such as the prevention of cosmetic surgeries should be done under the PCA Act and not under the Bylaws or Council Practice Standards under the Veterinarians Act.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

Given that the PCA Act authorizes the enforcement of Code of Practices for food animals, the PCA Act should only authorize medically necessary surgical procedures of an animal; the veterinarian decides what is medically necessary surgery for that client's particular animal based on the information available. If a procedure is performed that is felt to have been unnecessary then the matter could be referred to the BC SPCA for review in general and to the CVBC and complaints process in respect of the veterinarian's decision.

Council should lobby the provincial government to change PCA Act to allow for only medically necessary surgical procedures of an animal owned by the public whether for companion, food or sporting.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

I support a ban on ALL feline declawing except in the case of what is in the best interest of the cat's health so NEVER for behavioural reasons and NEVER for human-related reasons (remove the cat from the household!)

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

Therapeutic declawing done for extra-digits/polydactyl cats, where often the claw becomes ingrown, is the most common type of dewclaw procedure I have done. I do not wish this change in practice standard to affect my ability to continue to provide this type of service to my clients.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

The main consideration in my view is the technique used. Complete amputation of the third phalanx should be banned unless a pathological condition in one or more digits warrants it. Amputation of the distal portion of the third phalanx such as the Resco clipper method can be done humanely and is much superior to the complete excision of the P3 method. When properly done, cats are walking the same day as the surgery without any apparent discomfort.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

Please see my answer to question 6 - this questionnaire/ballot is not addressing these kinds of circumstances

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

I dislike doing declaws and discourage them whenever possible. However, we live in a world with too many cats and too few good homes. If declawing a cat will prevent it from joining the many thousands that are euthanized in shelters every year, or that are abandoned on the street, then I am willing to provide that service. Declawing is not the worst thing that can happen to a cat. Sometimes continuing to live in a stable home comes at the expense of the cat's toes.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

Need more education for those pet owners and veterinarians to truly stand fully behind the ban on declawing. The education should start at the vet, colleges and also at seminars, articles etc. It should be seen as a shameful malpractice if one decides to declaw. Have seen too many serious mental as well as physical problems post declawing. When one is convinced no bylaws are even needed!

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

After 30 years of practice, I have not found a situation in the past 8 years where it has been necessary to perform a "therapeutic declaw". What has been an all too common procedure should be recognized for what it is, an unnecessary mutilation of convenience, which should be banned.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

The ban should be under the welfare legislation, written into law.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

They should be a specific guideline about how the procedure should be performed (local block/ring blocks, pre-med, GA, post-op pain control, antibiotic) Also animals treated by declawing should have a mandatory follow up (7 days, 3 months) to ensure that no chronic pain or infection is developed after the procedure. The procedure should also be limited to an "indoor only" cats.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

feline declaw is unnecessary. Even immunosuppressed individuals can have cats that do not put them at risk. Education about behaviour and socialization is growing in the feline medicine world and altering a cat's normal anatomy for the sake of a human is not right

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

It is terrible that such a practice is still allowed under our standards. What about 'do no harm'? It is an archaic practice. Thank-you for bringing it to attention.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

I wish that no cat was ever declawed again. However I am concerned if we institute a blanket ban on declawing then some cats will be euthanized which could otherwise have lived. Declawing can be performed with proper technique and humane results. Veterinarians can do a substandard job on any surgery. Stating that this surgery is always done poorly is missing the point that perhaps not all veterinarians are qualified to do a declaw or any other surgery. Declaw surgery takes skill, patience , anatomical knowledge and the professionalism to know when you are or are not capable of performing a particular surgery.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

In the past, I believed that there could be exceptions for human health issues. Now I realize that people will deceive as they deem necessary to obtain a desired outcome. Since our role necessarily involves being an advocate for our patients, I can no longer support any declawing.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

I have been working as a veterinarian for 15 yrs and have never performed a declaw surgery

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

This survey is very confusing, unclear, and I suspect the results will hence be skewed and unreliable.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

I fully support a CVBC ban on feline declaws, with exception for medically-indicated cases. Changing the practice standard is insufficient - this is an issue that deserves a stronger stand.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

To better answer the original questions, when I was a GP, I did perform declaws as a last resort to preventing euthanasia, but that was <1 case/yr

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

I have no idea what question11 is asking me

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

I am completely against declawing for any reason other than addressing a medical condition of the CAT (e.g., cancer on one toe, non-healing lesion on one toe). I do not feel that practice standards will adequately protect cats from this barbaric practice that should have been outright banned decades ago. I had to do a declaw at vet college and did a couple in my first year of practice and my heart died a little each time knowing that I was mutilating a cat because a human couldn't live with the fact that cats have claws and will scratch. After that I moved to a feline practice that specifically did not do declawing (this was back in 1994) and instead gave free nailtrims for the life of a cat to anyone who wanted this. I also do not support declawing for human medical reasons at all. I am disturbed by the biases presented in the nature of the survey questions as I have very strong opinions that I am only able to express here and in some of the boxes above as your choices do not allow for all opinions to be addressed. I am no longer currently practicing in a small animal clinic but I am very familiar with the research showing the long term pain consequences for cats that have been declawed. I truly hope that the CVBC will consider putting out a second survey that has incorporated advice from the feline board-certified specialists in our province and that an outright BAN except for medical reasons for a cat (e.g., pathology of a specific toe) is the final outcome. It is time that we end this practice. After all are we not supposed to always "do no harm"? Thank-you.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

Declawing is inhumane and should be banned. It affects a cat's posture indefinitely.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration?

I understand Standards are enforceable, but allowing a registrant vote on a bylaw as was done for ear cropping and tail docking allows the profession to make a collective and democratic decision, demonstrating to the public the importance of animal welfare issues and the seriousness of the veterinary profession in BC in terms of animal welfare matters. Standards are

Council's consideration? not voted on by registrants, and as I understand them can be altered at anytime in the future without registrant input.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? As I mentioned, I agree a ban on feline declawing if it is for personal preferences of the owners; it harms the feline patients because of a demand of a human (unnecessary demand). But, if the human is in danger, feline patient is suffering, an emergency matter comes up, or anything which as a result of it the feline patient may lose his home and his relationship to the owner or his health, then I disagree with the ban on that matter.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? No cat should ever be de-clawed, no exceptions. This should be a bylaw.

Q 11. This is absolutely not true. If they were identical, you wouldn't be suggesting Practice Standard. This Q is totally biased and leading.

There is no Q in this survey that allows me to opt for I suppose a total ban on partial digital amputation with the exception of selected amputations for the medical benefit (e.g., neoplasia, resistant paronychia, osteomyelitis) of the individual patient.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? There are problems with definitions. Routine declawing refers to an elective procedure. Non-routine/therapeutic should refer to (and implies) medical reasons for the cat. This should not apply to behaviour as that falls under routine declawing...behaviours can be dealt with without amputation of digits. Therapeutic amputation (declawing if you wish) should refer to removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection.

Similarly, human health concerns, be they referring to immunocompromise or mental health or autism are better served by not declawing because declawing can result in greater chance of biting which is significantly more serious than scratching. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) has long recommended NOT declawing for this reason. Here's a link: <https://www.cdc.gov/bartonella/cat-scratch/index.html>

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? I want to add that I would and have performed an amputation of a nail/digit if required due to an injury or neoplasia. I assume this survey is not really debating this aspect of declawing as it is deemed necessary. I feel any by-law or law should explicitly point this out and have an exception made for the above situations.

Do you have I have indicated that I do declaws, but actually as of last week I was able to get the clinic behind

any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? me in making our practice a "no declaw" facility. We have used CO2 laser declawing after counseling, educating and urging to try all other options but within the past couple weeks I was put into awkward situations twice with owners (one was one of our best clients) wanting to do this just for convenience. I am tired of being part of this terrible practice. I am so happy the owner and rest of the staff agreed to just stop this (I was the only one doing the infrequent declaws anyway as I'm the only one comfortable with the laser).

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? This survey is not very easy to follow. For instance the question of do I support a ban with exceptions - I had to say yes because I would support a ban with exceptions as an alternative to no ban, BUT what I fully support is a complete ban.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? A strong feline-human bond should be the goal of all stake holders in this discussion.. Declawing done properly creates short term discomfort, less mental stress over the cat's life than having an aggravated owner, continues to behave as if it still has nails with an unaffected personality, and should be done on cats that live their life totally indoors. Please make this a well thought out decision to encourage pet ownership ... not one based on human emotion

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? I agree there should be a ban on feline declawing unless the alternative is euthanasia and all other options have been addressed.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? I really recommend a full ban. A ban with exceptions will just leave loop holes and vets will just write up the file to cover their ads while continue declaws. It's banned in many European countries. Now BC needs to step up to the plate as well.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? I am a veterinarian, I wish for us to be the ones to make all decisions on a declawing ban, not CVBC council.

Do you have any further thoughts or comments for CVBC Council's consideration? Ban on declawing is respectfully requested.

- If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? There are rare circumstances that allow for the cat to live in place if the onychectomy is performed.
- If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection.
- If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection.
- If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection.
- If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? I feel that it is a slippery slope to provide a ban with exceptions. There will still be vets who will do the procedure and still owners who feel it is the right thing to do or demand it be done. Those owners who truly do exhaust all alternative often are not the ones requesting declawing. Interestingly, I have very few people who ask for declawing in BC compared to when I practiced in Saskatchewan.
- If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? Cats without claws still have teeth and some would argue may be more likely to bite (especially if they suffer from chronic pain from being declawed). In cases with immunocompromised owners, a cat bite will often do more harm than cat scratch. Would it be justified as well to do a full mouth extraction in this case? I would argue no.
- If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? I think the ban should be much like the tail docking ban. That a declaw is allowed if there is trauma/disease to the digit and therefore onychectomy is the best choice for the patient.
- If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? I haven't seen any research done on this subject matter, so I am uncertain. However, I feel that for the examples above that soft paw application would be a much better option for the cat and it would still keep the people safe.
- If undecided, Will perform for medical reasons (removal of disease etc.) but not for convenience for the

what additional information (if any) do you require?	owner
If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?	Documented trial with plastic prostheses or weekly nail trimming first.
If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?	I don't know what to pick because I do not believe in any declawing
If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?	No declawing at all
If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?	I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection
If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?	I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection
If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?	I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection
If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?	I am not convinced all decisions to declaw will be made after adequate effort made to find alternatives same
If undecided, what	Same answer as above

additional information (if any) do you require?

If undecided, what

additional information (if any) do you require?

Medical reasons for amputation.see above

If undecided, what

additional information (if any) do you require?

However, I would not agree to a full declaw of the cat.

If undecided, what

additional information (if any) do you require?

A medical decision to amputate a toe to alleviate pain must be distinguished from declaw procedures.

If undecided, what

additional information (if any) do you require?

only exception human MEDICAL documented need

If undecided, what

additional information (if any) do you require?

Unless there is a medical reason

If undecided, what

additional information (if any) do you require?

I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection and physician-documented human medical need for immunocompromised individuals only.

If undecided, what

additional information (if any) do you require?

I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection and physician-documented human medical need for immunocompromised individuals only.

If undecided, what additional

If the cat would be more suitable in another home and the owner can find a new cat that does not pose a threat, I would not support a declaw

information (if any) do you require?

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

If the owner is able to trim the toenails, then a tendonectomy should be offered before declaw

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

Full paw PDA must be banned. If disease is present then we still need the option to be able to amputate individual digits.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

NO exceptions for behavioural reasons.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

again, NO exceptions for behaviour. There are always other options e.g. nail caps

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

It depends on the case

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

I do support a ban on all routine declaws. The only time I think it should even be remotely considered is under very rare circumstances where the o's health is at risk as mentioned above and the cat would otherwise be euthanized and only after every other possible option has been exhausted.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection.

If undecided, what additional information (if

I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection.

any) do you require?

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

Case by case information

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

Specific facts on which scenarios would justify this procedure.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

Specific facts on which scenarios justify this medical need. The cat can still bite the person!

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

I support a total ban and I do not support and exclusions except for medically necessary amputation for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infections.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

I support a total ban and I do not support and exclusions except for medically necessary amputation for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infections.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

I support a total ban and I do not support and exclusions except for medically necessary amputation for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infections.

If undecided, what additional information (if

I do feel that there should be a ban on all routine declaw procedures. I would like to know if any other jurisdictions have a ban on declawing but with exceptions. What are these exceptions?

any) do you require?

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

I feel that too many people would use the excuse that "there are young children in the house so they need to declaw the cat". I would like to see the exception of "very young children" removed from the list of exceptions. I would then support this.
I also feel that these situations (ie: wanting to declaw a cat based on human medical need) are very few. I have not encountered this situation in my 12 years of practice, but I have encountered many people who want routine declaws done.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

How do we ensure that reason was legitimate? Anybody can get a doctors note but I don't believe a GP is qualified or entitled to make this decision. For example just because somebody is immunocompromised does not necessarily mean a cat should be declawed, Especially one that has not previously shown any behavioural issues. Likewise, a client could come to us and say they have a new baby or toddler and wish to declaw a perfectly well behaved cat as a "Precaution".

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

I support a total ban and do not support any exclusions except where medically necessary for instances of neoplasia, osteomyelitis, or chronic, resistant nail bed infections.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

see above comment

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

see above comment

490 results on 5 pages: << < Page 2 > >> ▾

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Comments

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Question	Comment
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If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

Things like soft paws are available for people who have too high risk of being scratched

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

I support an outright ban with no exceptions

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

I support an outright ban with no exceptions

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

I struggle with the ethical nature of this. Should an owner be denied the privilege of owning a cat, if they have health issues? Should a cat have to be 'mutilated' just for the convenience so an immune compromised person may have the luxury of owning a cat? I can see it both ways.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? Obviously you need to have exceptions in cases of medical reasons to remove single digits (e.g. digital neoplasia)

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? People will use the behavioural exception as an excuse to continue to declaw cats if they have been declawing in the past. This will invalidate the ban and make it utterly impotent.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? "Without any exceptions" is a ridiculous statement, as there are medical (not behavioural) situations where it is required - I can think of at least 8 in my 20 years as a vet... The wording of the law/ban is important

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? Who sets the alternatives, what proof must be offered, who grants the "permission" that the alternatives have been exhausted ?? And what behavioural education will be offered to support vets & owners.... It's just like making something illegal - it doesn't mean it stops happening, it just means that when it does happen, it happens dangerously... It requires guidance & education!

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? I would love to see the euthanasia stats from places that it is completely banned. If declawing can be avoided I'm all for avoiding it!

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? There are clients who will euthanize a cat who is destroying furniture and in rural areas cats are not infrequently abandoned on back roads to fend for themselves.

If undecided, The only exception I would support would be for medical reasons as above

what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?
I support a total ban, not a situational ban

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?
I would like to hear the arguments for and against this before deciding.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?
Would need to be able to declare for appropriate medical reasons....mass removal, biopsy etc

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?
While I wouldn't likely consider performing for this reason I do understand the argument and there are already far too few spca spaces/ adoption options for unwanted cats, I'm not sure possibly increasing the incidence of unwanted cats is positive. I am not familiar with what the current frequency of declaring is, but i rarely see cats come in declared so maybe a ban would have little effect in practice as the procedure is already quite rare?

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?
support absolute ban; no exceptions

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?
I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary digital amputation for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis or chronic resistant nailed infection.

information
(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary digital amputation for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis or chronic resistant nailed infection.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary digital amputation for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis or chronic resistant nailed infection.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

They need to be allowed for medical reasons if the cat's health required some nails to be removed ie. chronic nail bed infections tumors etc. Other than that I fully support a ban.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

A declaw procedure is appropriate if a digit requires removal for medical reasons.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

I would prefer re-homing that individual cat. A cat that scratches could also be a biter.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do

Re-homing is a preferred option. Addressing potential biting risk should be considered.

you
require?

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

Some of the listed human medical needs seem inappropriate to me. For example, having very young children (segregation of the cat and person; the medical need in this case is transient, the procedure is not). Also I think there would need to be further qualifications of the example of the mental health issue example - I think that situation would not arise from the development of a mental health issue over time, ostensibly it already exists, and in that case perhaps a feline is an inappropriate choice (if declaw is deemed a concurrent need).

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

I think tendonectomy is the best option for cases of owner's with immunodeficiency if preventing scratching is required. Declawing should only be done when amputation of the last phalanx is warranted medically for example osteomyelitis of the last phalanx when it is not responsive to antibiotic therapy to save cat's life and it's quality of life.

If medical condition of the owner is jeopardized , he or she should not have a pet to begin with, otherwise owner might get bit and we are not going to extract the teeth!

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

Declawing should only be done when amputation of the last phalanx is warranted medically for example osteomyelitis of the last phalanx when it is not responsive to antibiotic therapy to save cat's life and it's quality of life.

If medical condition of the owner is jeopardized , he or she should not have a pet to begin with, otherwise owner might get bit and we are not going to extract the teeth!

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

there is no basis for human medical need to require a declaw. Those people exist very well with regular nail trims or soft paws and if not should be rehomed not declawed if they are scratching before they will bite after which will be worse for those people

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

In a situation where there is a neoplastic or other degenerative process going on - I want to be able to remove 1 or more digits.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

If there is a pathology associated with the digit that will improve the quality of life for the cat (i.e. neoplasia, extreme trauma) I will perform the de-claw.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? I'm in support of a complete ban. I did not want to choose no and have my response be misinterpreted.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? I'm in support of a complete ban. I did not want to choose no and have my response be misinterpreted.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? Would it incorporate declawing due to trauma

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? For some it is poorly performed with Remnants of digits remaining. It is traumatic like most surgery but will Prevent abandonment or euthanasia in some scenarios

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection."

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? If I select Yes, it implies that I support declining for behavioural reasons after everything else has been tried. I do not. I reject the idea that I have the right to amputate the last parts of toes for behavioural reasons. It is just as wrong as it would be to cut the vocal cords of a persistently loud/screaming child or remove their fingers because they touch and break things on a regular basis. If I select No, it implies that I don't support a ban. I am most definitely neither undecided or indifferent. But I have to give an answer so that I can submit the survey, therefore I am clicking on

Yes...but the question is flawed. I most definitely do NOT agree with this.

Behaviour can readily be modified so that person and cat can happily co-exist if and when a) practitioners are clear about animal welfare and b) clients are educated on what digital amputation involves, how to meet the needs of the cat and how to trim nails. Again, a leading question.

Another impossible question. Yes implies I support human medical need declawing. I do not, for reasons below. No implies I don't support a ban. However as I can not submit the survey without answering here and I am most certainly neither undecided or indifferent, I have to select Yes.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

Declawed cats are more likely to bite, therefore when a human is at risk for Cat Scratch disease, the cat should receive regular consistent flea protection; when a person is at risk for being scratched, declawing the cat is more likely to result in bites which both immunocompromised individuals as well as people with autism or mental illness will do worse by.

I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection."

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

None

I think there should be some criteria to allow vet judgement as long as they have explored other options

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

As long as other options have been exhausted

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

I am concerned that if it isn't VERY clear, that people will use this loop hole to have it done for convenience. I would prefer to live with a total ban.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

If owner insists on euthanasia of a young healthy cat ,what is alternative? If I refuse to euthanize the cat, they will find another clinic to do it or, worse case scenario, will do it themselves.

If undecided, what

I feel if you give an option to declaw that people will find a way to do it- when not warranted

additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

Again - so worried that this will be abused.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

declawing leads to the behaviour of biting rather than scratching when handled and in my opinion that is far more dangerous for vets and staff. I'm not terribly worried about the owner's furniture

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

It is very subjective to determine that all alternatives have been tried. What level is expected of 80 year old person vs young adult etc.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

See above. Very subjective

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

Would need exceptions for medically warranted cases such as polydactyly cats with claws that become ingrown.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information

What has been the outcome in parts of the world where this was banned?

(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what

additional information Does not necessarily need physician documented. Would answer yes if question read "physician &/or veterinarian".

(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what

additional information Unless it is considered digital amputation due to a pathological reason such as tumours or trauma that can not otherwise be repaired or not in the interest of the cat's health

(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what

additional information LONG TERM BEHAVIOURAL STUDIES ON CATS HAVING UNDERGONE THE PROCEDURE THAT DEMONSTRATE THESE CATS HAVE NEGATIVE ALTERED BEHAVIOUR BECAUSE OF THE PROCEDURE

(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what

additional information I think the argument is very thin and likely flawed as declawed cats most often become biters and more aggressive - therefore I think that it would be extremely rare that there would be a good rationale for advising declawing.

(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what

additional information I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection.

(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what

additional information I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection.

(if any) do

you
require?

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do

I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection.

you
require?

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

Very occasional medical reasons why. Recently had a cat with severe abnormal nail growth on all digits causing trauma and chronic digital infections etc

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

I would only support this position if the cat in question was in the appropriate household for his/her temperament and of course all his/her needs are met to begin with.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

This question seems designed to make the respondent squirm. Or produce uncomfortable doubts or feelings of guilt (Hmmm, ABSOLUTE ban?? WITHOUT ANY EXCEPTIONS??? Hmmm, now I'm not sure. What about medical need?)

I do not believe a response such as "Indifferent" should be included. Indifferent means you don't care; if you don't care you have nothing of value to contribute to the process. Veterinarians are being asked to provide input on a process that will lead to a bylaw; if you don't care, stay out of it. In my opinion, the response of one who answers "Indifferent" will be added to bolster the results the survey-maker favours.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

This question is problematic for being too long and containing too much information, possibly leading to misunderstanding on the part of the respondent. Short and concise questions are best-- that way there is no confusion about what is being asked. Both questions 9 and 10 break another survey rule: ask a single question at a time. It's ineffective to ask about a ban on declawing AND ask about exemptions to a ban on declawing within the same question.

With both these questions, the writer risks misunderstanding and confusion about what is being asked.

I do not believe a response such as "Indifferent" should be included. Indifferent means you don't care; if you don't care you have nothing of value to contribute to the process. Veterinarians are being asked to provide input on a process that will lead to a bylaw; if you don't care, stay out of it. In my opinion, the response of one who answers "Indifferent" will be added to bolster the results the survey-maker favours.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? The premise of the question is NOT documented scientifically. I expect a professional regulator to be factual and science based in their administration of policies, just as they expect their registrants to act in practice.

This question is problematic for being too long and containing too much information, possibly leading to misunderstanding on the part of the respondent. Short and concise questions are best-- that way there is no confusion about what is being asked. Both questions 9 and 10 break another survey rule: ask a single question at a time. It's ineffective to ask about a ban on declawing AND ask about exemptions to a ban on declawing within the same question.

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If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? I am opposed to routine as the owners do not want to ruin their furniture, but I am not opposed to if there is tumor present and the nail/digit needs to be removed. Perhaps the difference between routine and not routine/therapeutic is not clear to me but if it would be better for the animals health, then I feel it is necessary.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? I guess I just do not understand what behaviours would require dewclawing - especially as it can heightening biting frequency which may not solve the behaviour issue at all.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? With respect to young children - simply being a young child isn't a justifiable medical need for cats in the house to be de-clawed. If the child is immunocompromised or has a legitimate health issue then that would be acceptable, however just being "young" should not be used as an excuse for declawing. Parents with concern for young children's safety with fully clawed cats should teach children appropriate handling and behavior towards cats, using appropriate adult supervision, and consider delaying having a cat until children are older. If the "young children" exception was removed, then I would support a ban that makes exemptions with true medical need as long as full owner understanding and consent were given, AND the veterinarian performing the procedure uses up to date, appropriate pain management in doing so.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? There is no good rational scientifically or morally to now allow declawing for behavioural reasons.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? Declawing the cat will not result in the mitigation of health risks, it has been shown that these cats often become biters instead. This is where education is important ideally before anyone gets a pet but continues throughout the pet's life.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? on rare occasions elderly people can not have a cat with claws this is the only time we will perform this procedure

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? feline behaviour issues are valid in my opinion "if" the client is unable physically or mentally to manage the alternative behaviour modification techniques.

If human medical need must include emotional or psychiatric stress that would result if the pet was

undecided, removed from the client by forced euthanasia or forced surrender. Many elderly and shut-in folks
what are able to remain safely in their homes if the pet remains with them. Sometimes this will require
additional declawing.
information
(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided, This is a poorly worded question as there should be an option "without exception". A Ban should
what be a Ban - the only exception should be medically valid reasons (Squamous cell carcinoma -
additional irreparable fracture, osteomyelitis of the digit etc.) This exception would be abused.
information
(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided, I feel each situation is difficult; as I do not want to euthanize a cat because of scratching. I would
what much rather be involved and gain the trust of the general public as well; so informing people about
additional what declawing is has helped. I am just not sure if I can completely support an absolute ban...in
information saying this I have not had many clients ask for this. And I have only ever performed one.
(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided, How many cats are euthanized/would be euthanized if there were situations outlined below in
what question 10 if this was no longer an option? Would adequate pain control or therapy be given to
additional people who might not otherwise afford it if there are post-op complications (or phantom limb
information pain?)
(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided, How would this be monitored? How would we ensure ALL options are exhausted and the
what procedure is not being done for 'convenience'?
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided, See above comment.
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided, Alternative solutions should be shown to have failed, and very young children should not be
what included as an exception unless there are other factors.

additional information (if any) do you require?

If undecided, not sure anyone actually requires feline companionship

what additional information (if any) do you require? I consider the procedure to be morally wrong, but that's a personal judgement. I'm not sure I have the right to decide this for others, including other veterinarians.

I believe the profession's responsibility to advocate for animal welfare supersedes our duty to individual human quality of life issues.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? This would be extremely difficult to police this policy and everyone would make different effort to get owner to find other alternative. Maybe it could be done only after applying to CVBC with paperwork and approval ???

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? Documented reasons and good historical communication with the client.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? 9. does not clarify what would be considered a feline behavior issue - if it is an issue of not being able to get the cat to stop scratching the furniture, that is not an acceptable reason to declaw there is ALWAYS a way to sort this out no matter how often the owner claims alternatives have been exhausted,

I say ban feline declawing except for exceptionally aggressive behavior or a medical condition

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? I would exclude very young children from the list above as I am sure other arrangements can be made including re-homing the cat. Very young children can be very dangerous to cats so if the cat is scratching the young child it is likely the cat is frightened and possibly responding to harm. Declawing would not solve the problem. The child has to be trained how to behave around the cat or the cat should be re-homed.

If undecided, what additional information I think this could be a potential loop hole in the rule. Anyone can claim to have "very young children" and use this as an excuse to declaw their cat. I think this should be modified to remove the very young children part. And what does "physician-documented" entail? Are we going to be asking owners to provide a doctor's note? What are the legal implications of this?

(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

I can't see owning a cat and having a human medical need to be an issue. If you shouldn't have a cat by your physician's recommendation, then don't have a cat, and if decide to not take your physicians advice, then tough, you made your decision. When did routine declawing become routine? we never declawed our cats when I was a kid, but when I graduated as a vet, it was something we offered as a routine . That was almost 30 years ago , and we know a bit more since then

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

I support a total ban and I do not support ay exclusions except for medically necessary amputation for removal of pathologically affected digits, such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis chronic resistant nail bed infection.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

I support a total ban and do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation for medical reasons.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

I would only support declawing for the cats medical need or the owners (as stated in # 10) so unsure how to answer this question.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

If you remove the claws for behaviour issues, they will likely start biting.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do

This is an irrelevant point as I perform de-claw surgery only after a discussion about procedure and alternatives. In every case, we do this so the cat may remain with the family and not be euthanized or re-homed or sent to a shelter as a result of their destructive behaviour.

you
require?

If
undecided,
what

additional information (if any) do
Ambiguous question
I support a ban but not for behavioural reasons

you
require?

If
undecided,
what

additional information (if any) do
For this question, I really only support declawing with no exceptions, but your question isn't worded very well.

you
require?

If
undecided,
what

additional information (if any) do
again, maybe these people shouldn't have a cat, especially if their 'medical need' includes 'very young children' ; maybe they could just have visiting times with appropriate cats.

you
require?

If
undecided,
what

additional information (if any) do
I believe medical treatment (chronic nail bed infections, weak nails with recurrent trauma) is a viable reason for declawing. As well, in cases of at risk people (thin skin, immune compromised) who would greatly benefit from feline companionship, if no other option exists to maintain the feline-human bond, I would consider declaw as a last option.

you
require?

If
undecided,
what

additional information (if any) do
How common is this? Could a different pet be a better choice, or soft paws?

you
require?

If
undecided,
what

additional information (if any) do
Do not believe young children fit in this category

you
require?

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

Ban with some exceptions as mentioned in questions 9 and 10.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

Evidence that there is true human medical need. I used to believe this but have been told recently that there is no actual evidence that this is helpful to immunocompromised people, the elderly etc. I need to research this more. The very young children thing is not acceptable. Immunocompromised - maybe. I would rather err on the side of cats - i.e. rather than have this delayed further for "research" I would support a full ban now that could be modified later if it truly is shown that there are cases of human medical need.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

Yes, we would support an absolute ban except in the most unusual circumstances, i.e. having explored all other options. If the cat's quality of life would deteriorate to an unacceptable level (or if death would result), we might consider declawing. Also, if the owner's health is at stake, i.e. owner is on blood thinners.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

What constitutes "requiring" feline companionship? Does this apply to the cases where cat was in the family ownership prior to the diagnosis of human medical need?

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

Most declawed cat will revert to biting in my opinion. Would like more information on actual percentages. Bites are more dangerous than scratches.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

Why would declawing help? They still have teeth!

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Comments

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Question	Comment
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If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

Documented evidence that it is impossible for a pet with claws to be a companion to these individuals

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

No exceptions. Complete ban.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

No exceptions. Complete ban.

1. I feel that people would then just ask their GP for a letter saying that the kids are being scratched, or that the claws hurt and are adversely affecting the person's QOL. I don't think that having a physician documenting anything is going to be adequate. It is going to end up like the "emotional support animal" issue where anyone and everyone will be able to obtain documentation saying that the cat needs to be declawed.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

2. I would probably support something that includes only those with mental health issues, and leaving out those with "very young children". Cats scratch, and dogs bite, and they are in homes with kids. The animals should not have to suffer for the owner's decision to have both a pet and children.

3. There is also little evidence that immunocompromised people are at risk from cats with claws. Cat scratch fever is really the only thing that is transmissible in this way (the cats can still bite, obviously). Immunocompromised people are at much higher risk from parasites and bacteria like Salmonella than they are from cat scratches. The whole "declaw the cats for immunocompromised people" has been a bit overblown. Good article on pets and immunocompromised people here:

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3096326/>

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

I support declaw in human medical need and severe behavioural issues. This question is unclear and seems to preclude an expanded list of allowed reasons to do it. Suggest consider redesigning the survey as answers to this question will be unclear. Survey should ask Under what circumstances would you support declawing List all the options you have and also list an option " I do not support declaw under any circumstances.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

I would agree except for the inclusion of young children as a cause. Young children are not an excuse to declaw a cat, they can be taught to stay away from the cat's claws. I know this from personal and professional experience.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? This question is poorly written. I support a ban with NO exceptions including for feline behaviour issues. Behaviour can be managed or cats can be rehomed. There is no behavioural indication for amputating all of a cat's claws. Look at the studies- it actually causes behaviour problems (more serious ones like biting and inappropriate elimination, both of which can land cats in shelters or result in euthanasia).

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? This question is also poorly written and is leading. I am disappointed that the CVBC is ignoring available science and public health recommendations. There is NO human medical situation where declawing would be indicated. If a cat's claws cannot be managed, the person should not have a cat. Declawing can increase the risk of biting which is much more dangerous for human health. The CDC does not recommend declawing cats. Any physicians or vets who recommend this for human health reasons are not up to date on the latest science.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? I have never performed one but I feel that due to a disease process this should be allowed.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? Support TOTAL BAN on Declawing. NO exceptions. Behaviour issues can be managed, modified.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? Support TOTAL BAN on Declawing. No Exceptions

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? Human wants (note, owning a cat is never a "need") should never be prioritized above animal welfare.

If undecided, No exceptions

what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

No exceptions

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

I support a total ban and I don't support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation for removal of pathologically affected digits, such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection, trauma.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

Unless it is medically necessary for the cat (neoplasia, etc) which I assume would not fall under the ban?

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

This seems like a very rare/unlikely senerio and an unnecessary consideration when considering the issue.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

Exception would be for medical purposes (tissue necrosis, neoplasia)

If
undecided,
what
additional

Different standards applied by different clients and owners about what exhausting the alternatives looks like it. Clients who want it done will just say "if yo6 won't do it I will put him down". Vets who are doing the procedure will continue ti do so.

information
(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,

what additional information (if any) do you require? I feel like adding exceptions muddies the water. It allows practitioners who may not have their feline patient's best interests at heart a means to continue declaws for financial reasons. The number of cats that we see in our practice that we can't help to prevent declawing is incredibly low.

you
require?

If
undecided,

what additional information (if any) do you require? I believe this would be acceptable, however, it makes me wonder how far this could go. The teeth are also a hazard to such individuals. I do not feel that removing the teeth is acceptable. Where do we draw the line?

you
require?

If
undecided,

what additional information (if any) do you require? A full ban should be in place, with no exceptions!!

you
require?

If
undecided,

what additional information (if any) do you require? That's crazy, a full ban should be in place, there's such a thing as soft paws for pets of immunocompromised owners.

you
require?

If
undecided,

what additional information (if any) do you require? I would like to refer the cat to a board certified behaviourist as a criteria before I perform declawing.

you
require?

If
undecided,

what additional information (if any) do you require? I would answer "yes" but most of these cats will end up biting - which may end up affected these people with medical needs

you
require?

you
require?

If
undecided,
what

additional information (if any) do you require? Have ALL other options been explored and exhausted first and the ONLY other option the owner will consider is euthanasia.

(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what

additional information (if any) do you require? I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection.

(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what

additional information (if any) do you require? I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection. Cats should NEVER be declawed for behavioural issues under ANY circumstances

(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what

additional information (if any) do you require? I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection." There are NO exceptions to this that are acceptable in my opinion

(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what

additional information (if any) do you require? This question requires some work. Some of us NEVER will declaw a cat for moral and ethical reasons. I support banning feline declawing, it is not a behavior issue, cats use their claws, dogs bark!!

(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what

additional information (if any) do you require? This question requires also requires some work. Some of us NEVER will declaw a cat for moral and ethical reasons. I support banning feline declawing, it is not a behavior issue, cats use their claws, dogs bark!!

(if any) do
you
require?

This is a lame excuse and human physicians need better education.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? unless there is a medical indication - polydactilia with ingrowing claw / syndactilia with complications. alternative is euthanasia...

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? "I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection."

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? "I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection."

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? "I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection."

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? I think there should be a COMPLETE ban on all feline declawing. If there is an immunocompromised human in the household etc, they should not own a cat. Period.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? I deal with one client who has been hospitalized after being scratched by her cat and I told her to RE-HOME the cats. Declawing them doesn't eliminate her risk of this happening again as one of the cats could still bite her and transmit whatever the organism may be (it may or may not be 'cat scratch fever').

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? This ban would be better than no ban at all

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require? Causing an animal to suffer is not justified. If a person is in the above category they should not

undecided, have a cat
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what
additional information Wording must be precise. Toe amputation for therapeutic reasons vs toe amputation to suit the
whims of the client.
(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what
additional information I would like to see a ban on routine declawing, with permission to use my own discretion for non-
routine declawing.
(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what
additional information Many human patients, especially with mental health issues, do not receive adequate care in our
area. They may not seek it. Often, I know the clients better than their own doctor does; I feel I am
in a good position to judge their needs.
(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what
additional information Should be decided by the DVM on a case-by-case basis. Absolute bans do not allow for the
discretion of the DVM.
(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what
additional information Great variability exists on the decision making to address behavioural issues - a complex problem.
information
(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided, what
what
additional information If all behavioral modification options have been exhausted and owner is going to euthanize, then
declawing is ok as salvage / last option

additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

How far do you want to go? Also pulling the cats teeth out so it can not bite? There ARE good and safe alternative as regular clipping nails and soft claws. It is time for true compassion and understanding of the felines instead of always looking at the human convenience.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

Do not want any exceptions of this type where declawing is acceptable

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

I support a ban with no exceptions!

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

I support a ban with no exceptions!

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

Without a complete ban, it will only be an additional form for clients to sign to say they've tried etc. It should be a ban without exception.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information

But not for young children - if they want a kitten, deal with what comes with it, train the kitten, or don't get a kitten. Or don't have children. Animals shouldn't be put through needless procedures because people want to reproduce themselves

(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what

additional information (if any) do you require? While I said yes to this question the proof must be unassailable as to the efforts the client and veterinarian have gone to to solve the behavioural issues before allowing the declaw to proceed.

(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what

additional information (if any) do you require? While I said yes to this question I would need to be personally satisfied that again this was not a matter of convenience which a medical doctor has not thought through fully and realizes just what they are requesting and that the surgery and the pet are appreciated.

(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what

additional information (if any) do you require? Although I definitely do not support routine declawing and only declawing in very extenuated circumstances and would like to say no to that as well but I live by the philosophy never say never because we can never entirely foresee what's going to walk through our doors.

(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what

additional information (if any) do you require? I would like to see a total ban but I think I've answered why not in question #8. Also I'm probably going to retire sometime in the next few years and feel this is a decision that those who are going to be left with the consequences should be answering.

(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what

additional information (if any) do you require? It would have to be on a case by case basis, typically we (as a hospital) are opposed to declawing period.

(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what

additional information (if any) do you require? Only where there is pathology

you
require?

If
undecided,
what
additional
information

Young children is not a reason

(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

I have answered yes BUT you do not have an option that I actually agree with. I support a TOTAL BAN (not a practice standard) on feline declawing with NO exceptions to address a feline behaviour issue (which is usually a human-created problem anyways). The ONLY scenario in which I would ever support removal of a digit on a cat is for medical therapeutic treatment of a medical condition for the CAT...never to accommodate human medical conditions. Declawed cats BITE HARD so the rationale to declaw when human health is an issue does not make logical sense and should not factor into the decision process.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

I have answered yes BUT again you do not have an option that I actually agree with. I support a total ban on feline declawing with NO exceptions to address a feline behaviour issue (which is usually a human-created problem anyways). The ONLY scenario in which I would ever support removal of a digit on a cat is for medical therapeutic treatment of a medical condition for the CAT...never to accommodate human medical conditions. Declawed cats BITE HARD so the rationale to declaw when human health is an issue does not make logical sense and should not factor into the decision process.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

With the exception of a medically necessary amputation of a digit or digits related to neoplasia or another malady as was laid out in the NSVMA ban.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

This does not address the underlying behavioural issue, and it is known that declawed cats with behaviour concerns often resort to biting once declawed.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

This reasoning is not supported by the Centers for Disease Control or other public health agencies, so the CVBC should not support this exception. See above comment in #9.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

my concern is that some cats will perpetually be re homed, and possibly lead to euthanasia

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

I would like to CVBC to draft a standardized information sheet/document for consent. This document must be infomative without the intent to scare the owners, or make them feel guilty.

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection

If undecided, what additional information (if any) do you require?

I agree with ban on unnecessary feline declawing, with exception of medical issues (emergencies, endenger owner, etc.)

If

Does this also include for medical reasons?

undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

Question 8. I support and absolute ban on declawing for reasons of people, furniture...not therapeutic, medically beneficial for the cat due to cat pathology. There is no way to answer these questions if these are ones definitions. This is a leading Q...The surveyors are in favour of declawing, for heavens sake.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

Impossible question. If I select Yes, it implies that I support declining for behavioural reasons after everything else has been tried. I do not. I reject the idea that I have the right to amputate the last parts of toes for behavioural reasons. It is just as wrong as it would be to cut the vocal cords of a persistently loud/screaming child or remove their fingers because they touch and break things on a regular basis. If I select No, it implies that I don't support a ban. I am most definitely neither undecided or indifferent. But I have to give an answer so that I can submit the survey, therefore I am clicking on Yes...but the question is flawed. I most definitely do NOT agree with this. Behaviour can readily be modified so that person and cat can happily co-exist if and when a) practitioners are clear about animal welfare and b) clients are educated on what digital amputation involves, how to meet the needs of the cat and how to trim nails. Again, a leading question.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

Another impossible question. Yes implies I support human medical need declawing. I do not, for reasons below. No implies I don't support a ban. However as I can not submit the survey without answering here and I am most certainly neither undecided or indifferent, I have to select Yes. Declawed cats are more likely to bite, therefore when a human is at risk for Cat Scratch disease, the cat should receive regular consistent flea protection; when a person is at risk for being scratched, declawing the cat is more likely to result in bites which both immunocompromised individuals as well as people with autism or mental illness will do worse by.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection.

If

I would have to really feel this was a serious health risk to the owner and that there were not good

undecided, options to rehome the cat.

what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

Preferably no exceptions. Full declaw ban please like in europe. This kind of exception will simply make all vets that still currently declaw continue to offer it. Which makes the ban completely useless

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

I would still only do this for feline health reasons that exclude behavioural

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

Have they looked at another cat or type of pet?

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection.

If
undecided,
what
additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection.

If
undecided,
what

I support a total ban and I do not support any exclusions except for medically necessary amputation (declawing if you wish) for removal of pathologically affected digit(s), such as may be affected by neoplasia, osteomyelitis, chronic resistant nail bed infection.

additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

If
undecided,
what

additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

What policies would be in place to ensure that all alternatives were being explored/exhausted? For those veterinarians that will perform declawing, how can you ensure that they will not continue doing so, but claim to the CVBC that "all other alternatives were exhausted and the client has been clearly informed" in order to cover their practices?

If
undecided,
what

additional
information
(if any) do
you
require?

What policies would be in place by the CVBC to ensure that cases met the criteria for this?

If you
selected
"other"
please
elaborate.

I would only do an onychectomy if there was trauma or other disease process affecting the digit(s), therefore necessitating it.

If you
selected
"other"
please
elaborate.

Owner's compulsion

It has to be a last-ditch effort when all behavioural modification techniques have been exhausted.

If you
selected
"other"
please
elaborate.

I answered 1-5x/year in question 5. In reality, I do them less frequently than 1x/year. However, that answer option was not available. How is a practitioner supposed to properly answer this survey if the questions and answers do not cover all the possible options? Question 5 limits the answer to being 1x/year or greater. That is a bias answer and may not reflect the true scope of the potential lack of frequency of non-routine/therapeutic partial toe amputations in the B.C. practitioner population. This question needs to be rephrased.

If you
selected
"other"
please
elaborate.

Advise re housing or even surrendering to SPCA

If you
selected
"other"
please
elaborate.

only if it is in the best interest of the cat will we declaw it i.e. tumour, disease etc

If you selected "other" please elaborate. I do not perform declawing for convince only for medical reasons, such as crushing injuries, self mutilation by the patient, Neoplasia, or severe infection, or not enough healthy tissues to preserve the toe

If you selected "other" please elaborate. I only declaw for medical reasons. If there is damage to the toe resulting in inability to retract the toe or in polydactyl cats where additional toes are causing difficulty

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Chronic pain that will be elevated by declaw (toe is catching on carpet due to damage or polydactyl cats that are having difficulty)

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Medication

If you selected "other" please elaborate. If there is an intractable disease process (eg neoplasia)

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Rehoming

If you selected "other" please elaborate. In extremely rare situations where there is a severely immunocompromised person in the home.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. If the owner has health problems which include severe immunocompromise .

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Re-homing to home where it is not a concern that the cat scratches

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Elections > New Survey: Feline Declaw > Comments

Comments

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Question	Comment
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If you selected "other" please elaborate.

Will make the cat in to a barn cat in the middle of winter

If you selected "other" please elaborate.

I do not perform these for behaviour but disease problems e.g. bone tumors, severe nail infections, and only in the affected toe(s) - not the full paw.

If you selected "other" please elaborate.

Diagnosis & treatment of disease not behaviour.

If you selected "other" please elaborate.

I have performed 1 non-routine declaw in over a decade.

If you selected "other" please elaborate.

The once case I did the O really loved the cat but was immune compromised and the cat would scratch her and she would end up in hospital. This cat was a jerk but she loved him and I don't think there was another person on the planet that would put up with this feline.

If you selected "other" please elaborate.

If the human animal bond between the cat and its owner is being so severely compromised because of a cat's clawing behaviour I will counsel the owner that a declaw can in fact be performed safely, surgical discomfort can be managed and generally the procedure has no long term negative consequences.

If you selected

Extensive consultation with owners regarding post surgical care and analgesic requirements. Pricing of the procedure is very high to encourage owners to initiate alternative options. Non routine

"other" numbers closer to one every two to three years.

please elaborate.

If you selected "other" - Encourage owner to consider other options, eg rehoming, perhaps letting the cat live more outside, etc.

please elaborate.

If you selected "other" I only perform declawing procedures if there is a medical reason for it. For example, polydactyly in-grown toe nails that are hard to access, or declaws with repeated injuries, or toes which have a mass associated with the nail bed or pad...

please elaborate.

If you selected "other" Because I only perform declawing procedures if there is a medical reason for it., I spend an enormous amount of time educating and helping these people with "problematic" scratchers, and offer support at reduced prices, as I feel strongly that it is not necessary with the right support.

please elaborate.

If you selected "other" I would only declaw if there were a medical reason such a polydactyl with a claw growing into the foot.

please elaborate.

If you selected "other" Discuss re-homing

please elaborate.

If you selected "other" The definition of nonroutine declawing included for health reasons of the cat which I would interpret to include claw malformations, masses etc. I have not declawed for scratching related behaviors in many years and wouldn't likely consider declawing as an appropriate treatment for behavioral problems

please elaborate.

If you selected "other" Only do declaws if toes traumatized (frost bite, neoplasia, infection, crush injury, etc) Never done at request of owner for behavioural reasons

please elaborate.

If you selected "other" only done in cases of disease of toes

please elaborate.

If you selected "other" Discussion of option to just remove diseased claws

please elaborate.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Only and only when cat's health warrants the declaw or amputation of the last phalanx. I argue that if owner has medical problem with compromised immunity, he or she should not have a pet. How would you prevent owner from getting bit or getting bacterial infection from cat's saliva if owner had a cut in hand or elsewhere? I think tendonectomy is the best option for cases of owner's with immunodeficiency if preventing scratching is required.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. There have been occasions when the owner's health has been at risk eg people with dangerous cats who have AIDS or on chemo.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Both owner and cat will be chronically stressed and unhappy.
Breakdown of human/animal bond

If you selected "other" please elaborate. the owner will keep the cat but their health could be compromised due to immune suppression

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Owner will resent cat and lose benefit of having a pet in their home.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Behavioural modification, Situational modification, (how can you mix removing person at risk and meeting basic environmental needs for having a cat and furniture protection?), owner education, nail trimming, etc etc...this all belongs in Counselling regarding elective procedure...or more humanely, counselling and not performing this procedure.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. I think I have done two declaws in the last decade. Both had extreme extraneous issues. Both had immunocompromised clients (one HIV, one chemo) with cats that couldn't be conditioned not to use their claws.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Again, extreme conditions.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Neoplasia

If you selected "other" neoplasia can spread to other areas.

please
elaborate.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Owner may consider euthanizing or surrendering the cat, but more often, the cat becomes an outdoor cat, and the care of the cat decreases by the owner because the 'owner-pet' bond isn't there. So, all of the above are a consideration, but the care and caring for the cat decreasing is the main concern

If you selected "other" please elaborate. The ONLY reason we would declaw a cat is for a medical reason that could not be treated medically (feline onychitis if unable to medicate , onychodystrophy etc)

If you selected "other" please elaborate. The above as well as quality of life for the owner and cat. Cat ostracized to basement with no social interaction would be a good reason to declaw the cat if it improved the owner cat interaction

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Personalized phone call to explain

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Pressure from clinic owner to perform surgeries such as Feline partial onchectomy as part of my surgical duties/job description

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Owners are immuno-compromised.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Follow all the diagnostics (FNA, Biopsy, X-Ray) before arriving at therapeutic option for declawing.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. It will be performed to ensure good health of the cat.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Client would have to surrender the cat even though emotionally very attached. (Client had developing medical condition which made cat scratches a serious health concern)

If you owner's family safety

selected
"other"
please
elaborate.

If you
selected
"other" rehoming cat
please
elaborate.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. This is very poorly worded. How is a veterinarian to "remove the person in danger"?? In general the cat would be re homed if a person in that home was in physical danger in the presence of a scratching cat. Declawing a cat does not eliminate the risk to the household member. Many declawed cats resort to biting which can be a greater danger. Thus the cat should be re homed to protect both the cat and the person at risk.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. The owner is convincing enough that they feel they are unable to re home the cat and yet they feel their health risks will be mitigated by declawing the cat. I have not declawed a cat within the last 5 years for a threat of euthanizing or abandoning the cat. However in the past (10+ years ago) I accepted these rational as a justification for declawing. Animal welfare has thankfully come a long way and this is now not an acceptable reason.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. The scratching is interrupting the pet-human bond.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Medically indicated only

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Discussions with client health provider/family members/home care workers/etc.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. these apply only if Owner will suffer mental or physical stress/harm if forced to euthanize or re-home or abandon the pet

If you selected "other" please elaborate. The animal has a cancerous growth associated with only the toe that needs removal.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. The only declaw I have done in 10 years is on a cat that had been returned to the spca 3 times, and was destroying the current owner's house. The cat would have been returned to the spca or euthanized if not declawed.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Also needs a consult with behaviorist - prior to declaw if we are unsuccessful with all the above.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. I feel the only 2 circumstances for declaw would be
1) exceptional aggression from the cat that has failed to be modified adequately with other methods and has become very dangerous such that euthanasia may be necessary
2) medical conditions of the cats feet (eg autoimmune nailbed condition) that have failed to be remedied by other treatments ie try to remedy the medical condition first if possible

If you selected "other" please elaborate. 1 there is a medical condition necessitating the declaw eg autoimmunity
2 there is a dangerous non treatable aggression issue from the cat
NOTE in my experience if an owner threatens euthanasia unless I declaw the cat I refuse to do it, unless the cat is exceptionally dangerous, stating they will have to find another vet to agree to this, at the same time I offer every other option I can including allowing the owner to surrender the cat to me and then I will re-home it. This approach has been successful in the few situations I have experienced over the years. Usually the request for euthanasia occurs because the owner doesn't like the cat anymore and/or doesn't have the time or resources to look for another home for the cat so I will help them to get that done.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. We only remove damaged nails (single) that can't be managed medically- in the nearly 13 years in practice I've never performed an entire (all digit) declaw.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Only if the nail or digit is damaged as therapeutic. None of the other reasons listed above.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. will find somewhere else to do it. However, I have done 8 declaws in the 19 years since I have been in BC, so I do less than 1 per year. I have priced it to be discouraging to clients on top of the education we do

If you selected "other" please elaborate. declawing is barbaric, cruel and unnecessary

If you selected "other" please elaborate. proper training is key

If you selected "other" please elaborate. I would declaw if a health condition in the cat made it necessary.
I would also declaw if the owner had health conditions that made cat scratches dangerous and wanted to keep cat after a long discussion of impact on the cat.
I would not euthanize the cat for issues with the claws, there are always other options.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. In depth discussion of what de-claw surgery entails, the pain involved and the reduction of defences for a cat so they must remain indoor only after the procedure.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. This question is a bit badly worded - I used to do all these things before a "behavioural /owned by elderly with bleeding problem" declaw but no longer do them - this is recent as I have done research and discussed with colleagues in last 2 years. Also badly worded question 5 as there is no option for less than one per year which is my situation. None in last 2 years and one every other year or less before that.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. I will do this only if there is a tumour or other unsolvable issue involving a toe nail when all else has been tried. Not sure that fits here as is not a "full" declaw, as usually end up with full toe amputation in those cases. I do not do declaws for any other reason anymore but I used to and have done in last 5 years if the cat was going to be euthanized if I did not. Again your question does not quite allow for this situation.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. We have not performed any therapeutic declawing procedures for years at our clinic, but may do so if ALL other options were explored including rehoming the cat.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. I accidentally click the 1-5 and can't unclick it

If you selected "other" please elaborate. This is not something that appears to be a problem in our practice; most of our cats are indoor/outdoor and seem to be quite happy and owners don't every comment or inquire about declawing.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Prozac and behavioural drugs. We do declaw once every 3 or 4 years as we talk most people out of it. The survey does not allow for a frequency of less than 1 per year.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Medication

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Owner will have procedure done elsewhere if not provided at our hospital

If you selected "other" only time I declaw AT ALL is for something like severe infection, neoplasia, osteomyelitis in a toe and in that case I would ONLY amputate the 1 digit (and likely more than just a "declaw" - I would be amputating the entire digit) _ I NEVER "declaw" for behavioural/"situational" issues

please
elaborate.

If you
selected this is a terrible, misleading question that i actually can't answer with any of the above - again I ONLY
"other" "declaw" - or more appropriately - AMPUTATE A DIGIT - for a medical reason affecting that 1
please particular digit
elaborate.

If you
selected Only performed on young cats early in my career under guidance of mentor. Have not done this
"other" procedure in over 3 years now.
please Would not do again unless absolutely necessary.
elaborate.

If you
selected
"other" Owner may seek services of a non-veterinarian
please
elaborate.

If you
selected
"other" Owner will have it done elsewhere and we can at least ensure good pain medication and post
please operative care is given
elaborate.

If you
selected We would only perform a declaw procedure if it were in the best interest of the cat's health (e.g.
"other" cancer affecting a digit that could be cured by surgery).
please
elaborate.

If you
selected I do not believe that these methods are of significant benefit and believe that declawing can be done
"other" humanely.
please
elaborate.

If you
selected I have only twice performed a therapeutic declaw - both times in the past 12 months for cats with
"other" paronychia associated with Pemphigus Foliaceus confirmed on histology of nailbed crusts. One cat
please had osteomyelitis in her 3rd phalanges and the second cat is FeLV positive and immunosuppressant
elaborate. therapy was considered inadvisable. Both cats were painful and the "declaw" (forepaws only
needed) resolved their pain.

If you
selected
"other" See #6
please
elaborate.

If you
selected
"other" Amputation for neoplasia.
please
elaborate.

If you
See above

selected
"other"
please
elaborate.

If you
selected
"other"
please
elaborate.

I look for the owner to be as concerned about this "last resource procedure " as I am.
I probably perform fewer than I declaw procedure per year - not an option in your survey.

If you
selected
"other"
please
elaborate.

Occasional deep digital flexor tendon removal ("tendonectomy")

If you
selected
"other"
please
elaborate.

Not sure

If you
selected
"other"
please
elaborate.

Access to outdoors. Assist in building outdoor enclosures. Home visit to discuss and view household structure. Have offered rehoming at our expense.
I perform approximately 1 non routine /therapeutic declaw about once every 5 years.

If you
selected
"other"
please
elaborate.

If I am concerned about the owner keeping the cat but confining it in an inhumane manner or feel that the cat may be abused either physically or mentally if left with claws and in the same household.
It is not reasonable to report potential abuse BEFORE the person contemplates the behaviour .

If you
selected
"other"
please
elaborate.

Can't remember the last time we did one. Maybe 5-10yrs, ago.

If you
selected
"other"
please
elaborate.

Re-homing the cat (perhaps this is included under "Owner Education")

If you
selected
"other"
please
elaborate.

Scratching interfering with the human animal bond In that situation, pet may be better off with a declaw. It depends on the individual case.

If you
selected
"other"
please
elaborate.

adoption

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Everyone will perform therapeutic amputation when it is medically necessary. Again, you are blurring elective and medically warranted amputation. Behavioural modification, Situational modification, (how can you mix removing person at risk and meeting basic environmental needs for having a cat and furniture protection?), owner education, nail trimming, etc etc...this all belongs in Counselling regarding elective procedure...or more humanely, counselling and not performing this procedure.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. This (again) would refer to elective, NOT medically warranted therapeutic amputation. We exist for animal welfare (companion animals). This is a leading Q.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Neoplasia or osteomyelitis only. Never for any behavioural reason

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Is it in the cats best interest. I will not euthanize a cat just because of behavioural nail issues

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Fluoxetine, rehoming

If you selected "other" please elaborate. medical management of nail bed disease or injury first.

If you selected "other" please elaborate. Medical therapy for a medically based reason to declaw. Not for the behavioural reasons.