

## SURGERY OF MAMMARY TUMOURS IN BITCHES

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**Summary.** 62 bitches were operated on for mammary gland tumours in 1990-1996 at the Small Animal Clinic of Lithuanian Veterinary Academy. The majority of mammary tumours arise in posterior glands of 5-10 year-old bitches. The pathological histological examination of the tumours showed that the affected middle aged and older bitches had carcinoma *in situ* or malignant mixed tumours either of the same or of different histological type in the same or different mammae. After several years benign tumours develop into malignant ones which can metastasize via the lymphatic vessels to the other organs and tissues. Our investigations have revealed that surgery is the most effective treatment of mammary tumours.

**Keywords:** bitch, mammary gland tumour, surgical treatment.