For several months in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic, a significant number of spay and neuter clinics closed their doors. Even today, **appointments for spay and neuter surgery**—especially low-cost—remain extremely limited. In many cases, **the wait is months long.**

Fortunately, there is another option – **Megestrol Acetate (MA)**

**Halt Estrus**
Short-term prevention of estrus ("heat") in female cats for up to 7 months until spay can be performed.

**Rx Required**
A veterinarian prescription is required and liquid MA must be compounded.

**Treatment**
The liquid compound can be given orally or mixed into food. Recommended for community cats if given carefully so each cat gets the proper dosage.

**Safe & Effective***
Recommended for contraception by veterinarians when used at the proper low dosage. Already used safely in cats to treat other medical conditions with minimal side effects.

**Maintenance Dosage**
One 2.5 mg dose to an unspayed cat once a week for up to 30 weeks.

**Heat Cycle Dosage**
If a cat is in heat, 5 mg per day for three days, then maintenance dosage.

**Megestrol Acetate (MA)**
Short-term non-surgical contraception for female cats

Cat caregivers, animal shelter professionals, animal protection groups, and veterinarians: Learn more at alleycat.org/Contraception

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*April 10, 2020, Mike Greenberg, DVM, Maddie’s Fund®