

MICRO-RNA CAN DETECT MYXOMATOUS MITRAL VALVE DISEASE IN DOGS, NEW STUDY FINDS

December 12, 2024

A new study has identified microRNAs (miRNAs) as effective biomarkers for detecting myxomatous mitral valve disease (MMVD) in dogs and differentiating between its preclinical and clinical stages. Conducted by MI:RNA and the University of Liverpool, the study analyzed serum and plasma samples from 123 dogs using a panel of 15 miRNAs. The findings showed high sensitivity (85%) and specificity (82%) in distinguishing healthy dogs from those with MMVD, with an AUC of 0.93. The miRNA markers also demonstrated moderate accuracy in differentiating between MMVD stages (AUC of 0.82).

The results represent a breakthrough in early diagnosis and personalized veterinary care, empowering veterinarians to intervene before symptoms develop. MMVD, a leading heart disease in adult dogs, primarily affects small and older breeds. Other advancements in MMVD care include an AI tool from the University of Cambridge for detecting heart murmurs and the FDA approval of Vetmedin Solution, the first oral treatment for congestive heart failure caused by MMVD or dilated cardiomyopathy.

ONLINE TOOL TO IMPROVE DETECTION OF POST-SURGICAL INFECTIONS

Vet Times December 09, 2024

Specialists at the University of Edinburgh's Hospital for Small Animals have developed RESIST-Q, a free online tool to improve the detection and management of post-surgical infections (SSIs) in veterinary patients. This caregiver-based questionnaire provides a proactive and efficient method for identifying SSIs and enhancing infection control and patient outcomes. Developed over three years by surgical resident Owen Glenn and surgery nurse Ebba Orjefelt, RESIST-Q has proven effective in improving the timely detection and intervention for SSIs. The tool, refined by the hospital's soft tissue surgery team, is now available to veterinary professionals, offering streamlined post-surgical care and supporting better patient outcomes.

THE FIRST SEVERE HUMAN CASE OF AVIAN INFLUENZA IN THE US IS CONFIRMED

December 19, 2024

The CDC has confirmed the first severe human case of avian influenza (H5N1) in the US, involving a patient in Louisiana who was exposed to backyard poultry. Identified as the D11 genotype, which has caused severe cases in other regions, the infection led to hospitalization—a first for H5N1 cases in the country. While genetic testing is ongoing, no evidence of human-to-human transmission has been found, and the public risk remains low. This case marks the 61st confirmed human infection in the US, with California being the outbreak's epicentre. Governor Gavin Newsom recently declared a state of emergency to bolster response efforts, particularly in agricultural sectors where most exposure incidents have occurred. The Louisiana case is notable as the first linked to backyard poultry. Despite the seriousness of this case, health officials emphasize that the virus would require further mutations to enable widespread human transmission.

FELINE HERPESVIRUS DRUG SPEEDS UP RECOVERY OF KITTENS WITH UPPER RESPIRATORY DISEASE, STUDY SHOWS

Nov, 2024 Vettimes UK



A clinical trial by UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine has shown that the antiviral drug famciclovir can accelerate recovery in kittens with infectious upper respiratory disease (IURD) and reduce the incidence of corneal disease. Published in the Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery, the study evaluated 373 kittens with IURD-related ocular issues, combining famciclovir with doxycycline. Results revealed that kittens with mild disease receiving famciclovir recovered up to five days faster than those treated with doxycycline alone. Additionally, fewer kittens on famciclovir developed corneal disease. These findings highlight famciclovir's potential to improve outcomes for affected kittens, enhance shelter management by expediting recovery, and increase adoption rates for younger animals.

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Animal Health

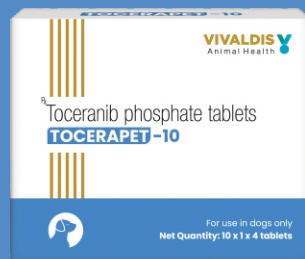
Oncology Portfolio

**SUPPORTING THEIR FIGHT,
STRENGTHENING THEIR SPIRITS**



VET MARO

Maropitant citrate
tablet & injection



TOCERAPET

Toceranib phosphate
tablets



OCOXIN

Complimentary
therapy in cancer



ONCO SUPPORT DIET

Nutritional support
for cancer patients

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