Breed impacts diagnosis, prognosis of MMVD in dogs

VPN, February 23rd 2022

The clinical signs of myxomatous mitral valve disease (MMVD) in dogs vary depending on breed, which could impact a patient's diagnosis and prognosis according to a Morris Animal Foundation-funded study. When comparing the medical record data of 69 miniature schnauzers and 65 Yorkshire terriers diagnosed with the heart disease, researchers noted key differences between the two breeds. The study found miniature schnauzers were significantly younger at the time of diagnosis as compared to Yorkshire terriers. Additionally, while the most common clinical sign noted in schnauzers was episodic collapse, in terriers, coughing was the most common sign noted. "This study shows some diseases are more complex than previously thought. Gaining a deeper understanding of MMVD will help veterinarians provide optimized, personalized care for their patients" adds chief scientific officer.

The ABCs of emergency veterinary triage

VPN, February 18th 2022

"Triage" is derived from the French word trier (or "to sort"). Triage can be done in two ways: in person when multiple emergency patients come in at the same time, or over the phone. Always assess the most critical patient first. Remember your ABCs: airway, breathing, circulation. Infectious/dramatic cases can be brought into the treatment room and placed in a kennel while the technician is getting a more accurate history. If the patient is very critical and needs to be brought back right away, the next step is to have a triage estimate ready. Triaging should be prioritized in order of respiratory compromise, cardiovascular compromise, neurologic compromise, and then other emergencies.

Again, assess each patient's ABCs:

Airway | Breathing | Circulation | Disability | External

After the ABCs, temperature, pulse, and respiratory rate must be taken to complete the primary assessment. Do not forget about pain management. A secondary assessment should be done after the patient is stable. A full physical exam, bloodwork results, imaging interpretation, and repeated ABC assessments are performed.

FDA seeks details on antimicrobial use, resistance in companion animals

AVMA, Feb 17th 2022

FDA officials want help collecting data on how antimicrobial administration to companion animals affects development of drug resistance. An announcement from the FDA Center for Veterinary Medicine indicates the FDA needs to better understand how drug use in animals such as dogs, cats, and horses might impact antimicrobial resistance in pathogens of animals and people. Officials want to learn about concerns regarding resistance development related to particular antimicrobials or antimicrobial drug classes administered to companion animals, as well as how the importance of a drug to human medicine should be considered in decisions about whether to administer the drug to companion animals.

STUDY

The effect of treatment with pimobendan in dogs with preclinical mitral valve disease - a placebo-controlled double-blinded crossover study (BMC Veterinary Research, 2021)

Pimobendan is a widely used medication for the treatment of dogs with congestive heart failure (CHF) and preclinical degenerative mitral valve disease (DMVD) with cardiomegaly. The benefit of a treatment in dogs with preclinical DMVD but without cardiomegaly has not yet been elucidated. Some positive effects concerning life quality and a decrease in cardiac biomarkers could be verified. This study aimed to further investigate these results using a placebo-controlled double-blinded crossover design. Out of a total of 15 dogs, eight were allocated to sequence-group AB, in which dogs received pimobendan (A) during the first treatment period and placebo (B) during the second period. Accordingly, sequence-group BA was treated first with placebo followed by pimobendan. Each treatment period lasted six months and included a baseline investigation and follow-ups after 90 and 180 days. Results: NT-proBNP values decreased significantly during the treatment period with pimobendan, and the post-exercise increase was attenuated at day 180. No significant treatment effects could be verified for cTnI and lactate, neither pre- nor post-exercise. Left ventricular size decreased under treatment, whereas no significant changes in left atrial size were detected. The owners described their dogs under treatment with pimobendan as being more active at day 90 (11/15) and day 180 (12/15). Those animals treated with placebo were described as being more active at day 90 (2/15) and day 180 (5/15). Conclusions: Pimobendan had reducing effects on the concentrations of pre- and post-exercise cardiac biomarkers and the size of the left ventricle in dogs with DMVD ACVIM B1. Exercise testing in addition to an assessment of cardiac biomarkers might improve the decision when to initiate pimobendan treatment in dogs with DMVD.

Dose
Pimoben - Solo 1.25: 1 tab BID for 5 to 10 kg BW;

Pimoben - Solo 5: 1 tab BID for 20 to 40 kg BW; > 40 kg: 2 tabs BID

Dose
1 ml/5 kg b/w b.i.d.

Dose
Pimoben1.25/2.5: 1 tab b.i.d for 5 to 10 kg b/w

Pimoben 5/10: 1 tab b.i.d. for 20-40 kg b/w, >40 kg: 2 tabs b.i.d.

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1. https://rb.gy/ha3lkv | 2. https://rb.gy/znmnap | 3. https://rb.gy/yg0ygw