Prevalence of dermatophytosis in dogs and cats in Egypt

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OBJECTIVES

Study the prevalence and identify different Dermatophytes affecting pets in the area.

METHODS

103 symptomatic and asymptomatic animals were recruited; 53 cats and 20 dogs were clinical cases; 30 animals were from a local pet-shop (18 cats and 12 dogs). All animals were given a full clinical and Wood's lamplight examination; their hair brushings were cultured using standard techniques.

Descriptive statistics were used to summarize the results & identify emerging patterns.

RESULTS

69% of symptomatic and 16.7% of asymptomatic cats in the clinical group were positive for dermatophytes. 53% asymptomatic pet-shop cats also cultured positive.

33.3% of symptomatic and 9.1% of asymptomatic dogs from the clinical group cultured positive for dermatophytes. 100% of symptomatic & 44.4% of asymptomatic pet-shop dogs were positive for dermatophytes.

Six different dermatophytes species were identified from clinical cat cases (*Microsporum* (M.) *canis*, *Epidermophyton floccosum*, *M. praecox*, *M. gypseum*, *M. nanum* and *Trichophyton interdigitale*). *M. praecox* was isolated from clinical cat group (n=3).

Three species of dermatophytes were isolated from dogs in the clinical case group. *M. canis* predominated (60%), followed by *Trichophyton mentagrophytes* and *Epidermophyton floccosum*. *Microsporum gypseum* was the predominant species (42.86%) in pet-shop dogs.

The incidence of dermatophytosis increased in the spring & winter. Young cats were more likely to be positive for dermatophytosis (P=0.026).

STATEMENT

Incidence of dermatophytosis is higher in this area compared to other countries. Strict hygienic measures should be followed in pet-shops as they have a high infection rate which can lead to infection of newly introduced cats and dogs.

A description of owner-reported flea control measures and skin disease in a cohort of young cats

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OBJECTIVES

Feline skin disease is prevalent within primary care veterinary practice. This study describes owner-reported skin disease within a cohort of pet cats. The type of flea control product used (prescription/non-prescription) was assessed for association with owner-reported skin disease at age 2.5 years.

METHODS

Study data were collected from two owner-completed questionnaires (completed when cats were aged 2-4 months (T1) and 2.5 years (T2)) for cats enrolled on a

long-term longitudinal study ('Bristol Cats' study). Chi-squared analysis was used to test for association between owner-reports of flea control products used at T1 and at both T1 and T2 (categorised as prescription/non-prescription products), and presence of owner-reported feline skin disease at age 2.5 years.

RESULTS

Feline skin disease at age 2.5 years was reported by owners of 55/1150 (4.8%, 95%CI 3.7-6.2%) study cats. Most (30/55, 54.5%) had not presented their cat to a veterinarian for examination of the condition.

Excluding owners who did not know the brand of flea treatment used at T1 and/or T2 and those reporting using both prescription and non-prescription products, the majority (237/317, 74.8%) used prescription treatments at T1 and at T2.

There was no significant association between owner use of prescription/non-prescription feline flea control at T1 (P=0.7) or at both T1 and T2 (P=0.44) and owner-reported skin disease in cats at 2.5 years.

STATEMENT

Over 50% of owners who reported skin disease did not seek veterinary attention. The category of flea control product (prescription/non-prescription) used did not affect the prevalence of owner-reported skin disease.