Oral presentations

A comprehensive review of adverse reactions associated with angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors and pimobendan in the UK

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OBJECTIVES

Congestive heart failure (CHF) and chronic kidney disease (CKD) affect a significant proportion of pets in the UK. Angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors and pimobendan are commonly used in canine CHF. Benazepril, an ACE inhibitor, is also used in the treatment

of feline CKD, so these drugs are frequently used in clinical practice in the UK. Like all drugs, however, their use is associated with adverse effects. This study aims to assess the nature and the prevalence of these adverse events in the treated population.

METHODS

Using details of adverse events extracted from the pharmacovigilance database held by the Veterinary Medicines Directorate, the nature and frequency of the adverse events associated with enalapril, benazepril and pimobendan were reviewed.

RESULTS

Since the database began recording cases there have been 292 adverse events reported associated with the three actives. The most common type of adverse events reported following use of ACE inhibitors and pimobendan were systemic disorders followed by digestive disorders. The most common adverse events reported were death, emesis, anorexia, and lethargy. A large proportion of the adverse events could be attributed to progression of the primary disease process rather than being genuine adverse drug effects.

STATEMENT

This study confirms the rare occurrence of adverse events associated with these active ingredients and therefore supports their safe use in the medical treatment of CHF and CKD.

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