Oral presentations

and 12 dogs died. The final diagnosis for the feline survivors was idiopathic chyloabdomen (1) and post chylothorax surgery (1) and for dogs was idiopathic chyloabdomen (2), inflammatory enteropathy (1) and cardiac disease (1).

STATEMENT

This is the largest case study describing chyloabdomen. Chyloabdomen has a variety of causes, and has a poor prognosis.

Is there a difference in pain-related behaviours between tortoises receiving different analgesic protocols?

Natasha Horne, Leander McLennan

Harper Adams University, Shropshire, UK

OBJECTIVES

- To compare the differences between giving a NSAID, or a combination of both a NSAID and an opioid, on improving pain-related behaviours in tortoises

METHODS

As an observational study at a veterinary hospital, tortoises indicated to receive either an opioid or NSAID as analgesic treatment by a veterinary surgeon were monitored for pain-related behaviours over time. The author monitored pre- and post-pain-related behaviours

after drug administration, at intervals of 6, 12 and 24 hours.

These behaviours included feeding, activity levels, whether the eyes were open or closed, neck extension, responsiveness, and limb withdrawal. Chi-squared was used to look for significant differences, at $P \leq 0.05$.

RESULTS

70% ($n=28$) of tortoises received only meloxicam as analgesia, and 30% ($n=12$) received both meloxicam and tramadol. There was a significant difference between feeding and drug administration pre-treatment and 6 hours.

post treatment ($P=0.021$ and $P=0.023$ respectively). There was no significant difference in any of the other pain-related behaviours between tortoises receiving NSAIDs and a combination of both NSAID and opioid drugs.

($P>0.05$), pre-treatment and at 6, 12 and 24 hours post treatment. Higher decreases in pain-related behaviour were however observed in those tortoises that received both drugs, compared to those that received only meloxicam.

STATEMENT

The research emphasises the current lack of understanding of pain and pain-related behaviour in tortoises in veterinary practice. There is a continued need for further larger-scale randomised controlled studies to determine whether meloxicam or tramadol alone, or a combination of both is more efficacious in tortoises.

The use of an omental pedicle to manage focal encephalitis in a cat

Konstantinos Fontas

Downs Veterinary Referrals, Bristol, UK

OBJECTIVES

The aim of the study was to present a surgery case for treating encephalitis.

METHODS

An 11-year-old female cat, DSH presented with a three-week history of sudden blindness and circling. Neurological examination revealed reduced pupillary light in the left eye and menace response in the right eye. MR-scans of the skull were performed which revealed a high T2W signal area within the subdermal tissues, which extended into the left temporal lobes. FeLV/FIV an testing was negative, while CSF examination was normal. Over the first 24 h, the cat was stabilized with supportive care, including mannitol and intravenous antibiotics. The following day, repeat neurological examination showed no changes and exploratory craniotomy was done. Anticipating the use of omentum, a standard, inverted 'L' pedicle of the dorsal leaf of the greater omentum was raised via a midline celiotomy. The pedicle was exited through a left paracostal incision and the abdomen was closed. The omental pedicle was tacked lightly into position over the parietal. Finally, tissue was submitted for histopathology;