Retrospective study of post-operative regurgitation in dogs following upper airway surgery to treat brachycephalic obstructive airway surgery: 150 cases (2013–2016)

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OBJECTIVE

To determine the incidence of regurgitation in dogs within 24 hours of surgery to treat brachycephalic obstructive airway syndrome (BOAS), including either a staphylectomy or folded flap palatoplasty, and to identify possible risk factors for this complication.

METHOD

Retrospective single centre study of dogs undergoing BOAS surgery over three years. Electronic medical records were searched for dogs that had undergone a folded flap palatoplasty or staphylectomy as part of BOAS surgery at a UK specialist referral centre. Data retrieved included signalment, surgical procedures performed, grade of laryngeal collapse, history of pre-operative regurgitation, drugs administered, regurgitation whilst hospitalised pre- and post-operatively, length of hospitalisation, and requirement for tracheotomy. These were assessed using univariable binomial logistic regression; results with $P < 0.05$ were then assessed against covariates thus identifying confounding factors in a multivariate model.

RESULTS

Of 150 dogs meeting the inclusion criteria 46 regurgitated during the first 24 hours postoperatively (30.67%). Potential risk factors identified from univariate analysis included age, perioperative use of omeprazole, alar cartilage resection as part of surgery, being unneutered and breed (French Bulldog). Following assessment with covariates, age (as a continuous variable) remained significant with younger dogs more at risk. Age ranged from 3 months to 11 years (mean = 3 years). Of 72 dogs aged 2 or under 41.7% (30/72) regurgitated compared with 20.5% of dogs aged 2 or older (16/78 dogs).

IMPACT

Dogs of a younger age presenting for BOAS surgery are more likely to regurgitate within 24 hours of surgery than older dogs.

Surgical management of impalement injuries to the trunk of dogs: a multi-centre retrospective study

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OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this retrospective study was to review a large series of dogs that were referred for specialist treatment having suffered traumatic impalement injuries to the thorax and/or abdomen and to report the aetiologies, injury characteristics, surgical management and long-term outcomes for these patients.

METHODS

Retrospectively collected data of dogs surgically treated for impalement injuries to the trunk at six veterinary referral institutions in the UK over an 11-year period were reviewed. Data collected for each case included patient signalment, physiologic variables, injury-specific variables, diagnostic imaging reports, surgical procedure-related variables, duration of hospitalisation, antibiotic use, complications and outcomes. All data were reported with summary statistics.

RESULTS

Fifty-four dogs were included. Impalement occurred most frequently on wooden objects (n=34) and the

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