Poster presentations

limb venous glucose concentration was decreased compared to jugular vein glucose concentration and creatinine phosphokinase and D-dimers were increased in both cases. Lactic acid was increased in the hindlimb of Cat 2 compared to the jugular vein.

RESULTS

Both cats had unremarkable cardiac ultrasound and a pulmonary mass was suspected on radiographs and confirmed by computed tomography. CT angiography revealed aortic embolisation in both cases. Cat 1 was treated with enoxaparin and clopidogrel until accessory lung lobe excision, and the post mortem histopathologic diagnosis was adenosquamous cell carcinoma (iliac

arteries, accessory lung lobe). Cat 2 had a quadriceps muscle mass originating from the left femoral artery with a cytological diagnosis of reactive fibroplasia (muscle) and the post mortem histopathologic diagnosis confirmed bronchial adenocarcinoma (muscle, left femoral artery, left caudal lung, aortic bifurcation).

STATEMENT

Embolisation in peripheral limb arteries in cats is known to occur as lung-digit syndrome. Neoplastic emboli in the aortic bifurcation or the iliac arteries is a rare presentation with only two published cases confirmed by histopathology, however it should be considered in aged cats without evidence of cardiomyopathy.

Characterisation of canine parvovirus (CPV-2) circulating in the UK

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OBJECTIVES

CPV-2 is a major pathogen of dogs, causing severe haemorrhagic diarrhoea and often death in young puppies. Despite widespread vaccination, the disease continues to occur regularly in small animal practice. Since CPV-2 first emerged in the late 1970s, it has evolved into 3 main antigenic subtypes: 2a, 2b and 2c, completely replacing the original type 2. This study determined which strains of CPV are currently circulating in a sample of dogs living throughout the UK.

METHODS

Thirty-four faecal samples were collected from dogs in the UK, which tested positive for parvovirus by SNAP test or diagnostic polymerase chain reaction (PCR). DNA was extracted from the samples, and approximately 400bp of the capsid protein VP2 was amplified by PCR and sequenced to determine the strain of CPV present.

RESULTS

The predominant strain found was CPV-2b (20/26). A single case of CPV-2c was found and 5/26 were CPV-2a. The last study to characterise CPV in the UK was published in 2008, and also found type 2b as the most common variant. Results from the current study suggest that CPV-2b is still the predominant type, and has not been overtaken by the newer type 2c.

STATEMENT

The current study suggests that CPV-2 in the UK has undergone relatively little change in the last decade. However, CPV continues to evolve and so continued surveillance of strains present in a region is necessary to determine current vaccination efficacy and detect emergence of new antigenic variants; such variants could be more pathogenic or resistant to current vaccines.

Clinical presentation of canine distemper virus infection in dogs in Brazil

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OBJECTIVES

Canine distemper virus (CDV) infection remains a prevalent disease of the dog in many countries. The aim of this study was to review retrospectively the signalment and clinical presentation of dogs with CDV infection presenting to a veterinary teaching hospital in Brazil.

METHODS

The medical records of 6,700 dogs (January 2014 to December 2015) were evaluated and 74 (1.1%) cases of CDV infection were diagnosed.

RESULTS

Fifty-three percent of the dogs were of mixed-breed and 12% were Poodles. Twenty-three percent of the dogs were aged 8–16 weeks, 23% 4–11 months and 54% were >1 year old. Fifty-nine percent of the young dogs (up to 12 months of age) had never been vaccinated with core vaccines and 47% had received an incomplete vaccination schedule or vaccines not given by a veterinarian. Among adult dogs (>12 months), 29% had received puppy vaccination, but never received a booster and 57% had never been vaccinated. Ninety-eight percent of the dogs displayed neurological signs at the time of admission, including myoclonus (79%), seizures (34%), cerebellar and vestibular signs (41%) and

paraparesis or tetraparesis (11%). Absolute lymphopenia was observed in 86% of dogs. Twenty-five percent of the dogs were euthanized at the time of admission and 20% after treatment. Thirty-three percent were successfully treated and 22% did not return after the first consultation.

STATEMENT

The relatively high prevalence of CDV infection in this area of Brazil is likely a consequence of inadequate core vaccination of dogs related to the socioeconomic situation of the pet owners.

Symmetric dimethylarginine (SDMA) in geriatric cats and dogs: suitable for the early diagnosis of renal dysfunction?

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OBJECTIVES

Chronic kidney disease as well as the early detection in the creatinine blind zone is still a big issue in small animal practice. A new parameter, SDMA (symmetric dimethylarginine), originates from the protein degradation and is excreted exclusively via the kidneys. The aim of this study was to evaluate the symmetric dimethylarginine (SDMA) as a parameter for early detection of renal dysfunction in geriatric dogs and cats.

METHODS

Serum samples from each 87 geriatric dogs and cats were used. Creatinine and Cystein C concentrations were measured photometrically. SDMA analysis was done using a competitive ELISA assay.

RESULTS

In cats (8–22 years of age), 48.3% showed an increase in creatinine and SDMA, whereas 28.7% only had raised SDMA values. Dogs had both high creatinine and SDMA values in 46% of the cases, in contrast to 43.7% with sole SDMA increase. 33.8% of the dogs showed SDMA values above the reference interval with normal cystatin C. In 2 cats and 1 dog we noticed a rise in creatinine without SDMA increase.

STATEMENT

This study shows that SDMA is a sensitive parameter for early disease of kidney disease in geriatric animals. In cats and dogs, we were able to diagnose renal dysfunction which would not have been detected by creatinine measurement. Furthermore, SDMA seems to be more sensitive than cystatin C. In the three cases with solitary creatinine increase, a pronounced dehydration was present in all patients. Additionally, animals with large muscle mass may have elevated creatinine levels without apparent kidney damage.

Caudal and sacrocaudal intervertebral disc protrusion in two cats

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OBJECTIVES

Reports of caudal and sacrocaudal intervertebral disc disease are rare in the veterinary literature, with only 6 dogs and no cats being reported. We describe the first two cases of sacral/caudal intervertebral disc protrusion in cats.

METHODS

Medical records of two cats presented at our hospital with S3–Cd1 and Cd1–2 intervertebral disc protrusion were reviewed for signalment, neurological signs, MRI findings, surgical treatment and post-operative follow-up.

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