2 animals. Histopathological examination demonstrated a mucosal fluid containing cyst lined by ciliated, pseudostratified epithelium consistent with previous reports of pharyngeal hypophysis.

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

Cystic pharyngeal hypophysis is a common finding on canine MRI which contrary to previous reports has no apparent consistent clinical significance

Preliminary findings of an investigation into the association between vaccination and immune-mediated diseases of the canine central nervous system

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OBJECTIVES

To determine whether there is a temporal relationship between vaccination of any type and the onset of immune-mediated central nervous system diseases (MUO and SRMA) in dogs.

METHODS

Retrospective, case-control study was conducted using data from the clinical records collected at a referral

hospital between 2011 and 2018 where vaccination records were available. 27 dogs with a diagnosis of inflammatory central nervous system disease were age- and gender-matched with an equal number of control dogs presented in the same time period for other diseases. Dogs who were vaccinated within 28 days before the onset of clinical signs of immune-mediated central nervous system disease were considered as a positive case in this study. To assess the association between recent vaccination and the onset of disease, odds ratio were calculated and categorical data was analysed using Fisher's exact test.

RESULTS

Three of the 27 dogs in the immune-mediated central nervous system disease group had been vaccinated within 28 days before onset of clinical signs versus nine dogs in the control group. The odds ratio for a dog showing signs of MUO or SRMA if vaccinated within the last 28 days was 0.25 (95% confidence interval 0.06 to 1.06; $p = 0.10$).

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

In this population of dogs, recent vaccination did not increase the likelihood of development of immune-mediated CNS diseases, although a larger sample size is required to confirm this finding.

Is CT an alternative to MRI in a morphometric analysis system for prediction of Chiari-like malformation associated pain and syringomyelia?

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OBJECTIVES

A system of MRI morphometric analysis to predict Chiari-like malformation associated pain (CM-P) and syringomyelia (SM) has been developed. The analysis relies on bony landmarks and computer tomography (CT) of the skull and cervical vertebrae may be useful to predict disease risk i.e. as a more economical pre-breeding screening test.

METHODS

This proof of principle pilot study compared morphometric analysis between MRI and CT. Medical records over 4 years were searched for dog breeds predisposed to CM-P and SM that had both MRI and CT head imaging. 13 dogs were identified (5 Chihuahua, 7 Cavalier King

Oral presentations

Charles Spaniels, 1 Griffon Bruxellois). 13 measurements (1 circle, 1 ellipse, 7 lines, 4 angles) were taken on mid-sagittal T2 weighted MRI and CT images of the skull and cervical spinal cord.

RESULTS

ICC Model (2,1) absolute agreement showed very good agreement for 9 measurements (ICC range 0.790–0.987); 3 measurements had some agreement (ICC range 0.585–0.687) and 1 angle had poor agreement (0.288). Measurements that used bony landmarks had better agreement.

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

Morphometric analysis to predict risk of CM-P and SM can be applied to CT but refinement will be necessary. This may eventually be useful as a pre-breeding screening test especially if anatomical analysis software is developed. CT is not sensitive for SM and for the foreseeable future any hypothetical CT pre-breeding test for skeletally mature dogs would be combined with MRI from 5 years of age to determine the final CM-P/SM status. All data would be used in an estimated breeding value programme.

The Erector Spinae Plane block for intraoperative analgesia in dogs undergoing hemilaminectomy: a retrospective study

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OBJECTIVES

To evaluate retrospectively the erector spinae plane block as part of a multimodal analgesia protocol for dogs undergoing hemilaminectomy, with regards to intraoperative rescue analgesia requirements and clinical safety.

METHODS

In this retrospective, observational study, anaesthetic records of dogs receiving an ultrasound guided ESP

block with ropivacaine for hemilaminectomy for intervertebral disc extrusion between December 2017 and July 2018 were reviewed. Parameters recorded for the study included: signalment, surgical area, number of discs, premedication, induction agent, volatile agent, heart rate, respiratory rate, blood pressure, percentage of inhalation anaesthetic used and temperature. Any analgesia given intraoperatively was documented and assessed as to whether this was given for rescue analgesia purposes (rescue was given when there was an increase in heart rate and/or blood pressure and/or respiratory rate). Factors affecting the use of rescue analgesia were analysed using binary logistic regression.

RESULTS

Forty-eight dogs were included in the study. All dogs received 0.2 mg/kg of methadone and nine of them had NSAIDs as premedication. From the 48 dogs, 18 required rescue analgesia. From those 18, 10 required an addition of 0.1 mg/kg methadone, with the other 8 requiring higher levels of rescue analgesia. On the logistic regression, signalment, sedative used, surgical area and number of discs had no effect on the requirements for rescue analgesia. No complications were reported with the use of the ESP block.

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

Ultrasound guided ESP can be a simple and safe technique for provision of intraoperative analgesia for patients undergoing hemilaminectomy.

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