RESULTS

275 dogs were included for the study and postoperative antibiotics were dispensed to 168 (61.1%) dogs. NLP was used in 114 (41.5%), LP in 128 (46.5%) and DLP in 33 (12%) dogs. Postoperative infection was diagnosed in 48 (17.5%) dogs. Dogs with NLP, LP, and DLP had postoperative infection rates of 24.5%, 13.3%, and 9.1%, respectively. The usage of a locking construct and postoperative antibiotic therapy were associated with significant reductions in postoperative infection. A non-locking construct increased and postoperative antibiotics

decreased the risk of infection by 2.08 and 2.37 times, respectively.

However, DLP did not result in a statistically significant reduction in infection.

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

A locking construct and postoperative antibiotic therapy significantly reduced the risk of postoperative infections in dogs >50 kg undergoing TPLO. Further investigations are required to determine if the use of DLP could be justified in this cohort of dogs.

Gait analysis of lameness-free dogs: experience with a Tekscan pressure-sensitive walkway system

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OBJECTIVES

To define reference intervals and investigate repeatability for key gait parameters in a lameness-free canine population using a pressure-sensitive walkway (PSW) system.

METHODS

Following institutional ethical approval, 40 healthy client-owned dogs of various breeds weighing 15–40 kg and

between 2–6 years old were recruited. Orthopaedic pathology was ruled out by clinical examination and using validated owner questionnaires. Six valid trials (3 in each direction) were obtained using a 2 m by 0.46 m PSW (Tekscan 5101E-VH4), equilibrated daily and calibrated weekly. For a valid trial, all paws had to contact the PSW for two or more consecutive strides, with a constant velocity of 0.9–1.1 m/s, while walking with a loose leash without overt head movements. Measurements were repeated for 10 dogs on a different day. Symmetry indices for key gait parameters were derived and reference intervals for these created from bootstrapped 2.5% and 97.5% percentiles.

RESULTS

Stance time, stride length and peak vertical force reference intervals were typically under $\pm 10\%$, and narrower for forelimbs than hindlimbs. Coefficient of variation for repeated measurements was typically under 10%. Direction of travel had statistically significant, but clinically unimportant effects, on several gait parameters.

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

Pressure-sensitive walkway data are repeatable and show relatively little variation, such that deviations beyond reference intervals may permit identification and monitoring of lameness in clinical patients. Pressure-sensitive walkways may be useful in assessing clinical gait profiles and monitoring response to treatments such as surgery or physiotherapy.

Complications and outcomes following feline dorsal pantarsal arthrodesis using a pre-contoured plate in 32 cats (2010–2018)

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OBJECTIVES

To report the clinical perioperative (0–3 months) outcome and complications of pantarsal arthrodesis (PTA) with dorsal plating in 32 cats without postoperative external coaptation, and to report long-term outcome based on owner's perception with the Feline Musculoskeletal Pain Index (FMP) questionnaire.

Presented by BSAVA
Guest (guest)

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