Poster presentations

Spontaneous haemothorax in juvenile dogs: a case series

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OBJECTIVES

To describe the clinical features, treatment, and outcome of juvenile dogs presenting with spontaneous haemothorax.

METHODS

Multi-centre retrospective referral-based study. Hospital databases were searched for dogs aged 1–24 months with a diagnosis of spontaneous haemothorax. Dogs were defined as spontaneous haemothorax provided there was no history of trauma, evidence of a coagulopathy (platelet count < 50 x 10⁹/l, prolonged PT or APTT), or intrathoracic mass. Data extracted for analysis

included signalment, history, investigation findings, treatment, and outcome.

RESULTS

Seven dogs from two referral centres were identified. Median age was 11 months (range 3.5–20 months) with no obvious sex predisposition (3 FE, 1 FN, 2 ME, 1 MN), there were two Chihuahuas and two whippets, remaining breeds were represented once. Commonly reported clinical signs included lethargy (n = 7) and pyrexia (n = 6). Thymic pathology was suspected in six dogs based on thoracic imaging. Three dogs were managed surgically and four were managed conservatively. Medications administered included antimicrobials (n = 7), non-steroidal anti-inflammatories (n = 3), glucocorticoids (n = 1), one dog managed surgically received a blood transfusion. Histopathology of thymic tissue was available from the surgically managed dogs and compatible with thymic haemorrhage in all cases.

Two out of three dogs managed surgically died, recorded reasons were phrenic nerve dysfunction secondary to thoracotomy and acute lung injury following mechanical ventilation respectively. All four dogs managed conservatively survived with no recorded recurrence.

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

Spontaneous haemothorax can occur in young dogs. Pyrexia was a common feature although causality is not established. Outcome with conservative management appeared to be superior to surgery in this cohort of dogs.

A survey investigating factors influencing a surgeon's choice of ovariohysterectomy Vs ovariectomy when neutering female dogs in UK small animal vet practices

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OBJECTIVES

Ovariohysterectomy (OVH) is the commonest procedure for routine neutering of bitches in the UK, with

ovariectomy (OVE) and laparoscopic techniques (LOVH and LOVE) becoming more popular. The aim of this research was to determine what factors influence techniques chosen by veterinary surgeons (VS) to neuter bitches and, in particular, if the most important factor influencing choice is undergraduate teaching.

METHODS

Prospective observational cross sectional study. An online survey, designed on Survey Monkey, was distributed to practice email addresses obtained from the 2018 Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) practice database. 3072 emails were delivered, generating 788 responses (24.3% response rate).

RESULTS

OVH was the most commonly taught technique at university (99.3%), followed by OVE. Mann Whitney U tests indicated that <5yrs graduates had been taught and observed a greater number of techniques than >5 year graduates (p < 0.0001, p < 0.0001).

The majority of VS learnt most in their first job (62.0%), did not learn a new technique post-graduation

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