(95% CI: 7.00–7.70). Pendulous-eared dogs had 1.79 times the odds of otitis externa compared with dogs with erect ears (95% CI: 1.53–2.10, $P < 0.001$). Males had 1.23 times the odds of otitis externa compared with females (95% CI 1.11–1.36, $P < 0.001$). Insured dogs had 1.42 times the odds of otitis externa compared with uninsured dogs (95% CI: 1.24–1.62, $P < 0.001$).

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

This study confirms predisposition to otitis externa in pendulous-eared dogs. In future, veterinarians should be extra vigilant about otic examination and owner education in these breeds in order to improve prevention and management of this debilitating and often recurrent disease.

Ingestion of unsuitable material and emesis induction at home – A survey among dog owners

Minna Suokko, Terttu Lamminen

Orion Corporation Orion Pharma, Espoo, Finland

OBJECTIVES

The aim was to collect information on how often and what kind of unsuitable material dogs accidentally ingest at home, and which measures the owners usually take.

METHODS

Dog owners were contacted via social media in the UK and by email in the US to respond to an online survey (Webropol 2.0).

RESULTS

473 dog owners (UK: 269, US: 204) completed the survey. 88% of all dogs had sometimes eaten something unsuitable (e.g. foreign objects, human food toxic for dogs, medicines, other poisonous material or excessive amount of food), 75% more than once and 24% even more than 5 times. This is not just a puppy behaviour as only 23% of the dogs eating unwanted things were younger than 1 year.

After these incidences, about half of the owners contacted a veterinarian. Advice was also sought from friends, breeders, and internet. Hardly any owners induced vomiting at home without consulting anyone. The most commonly used emetic substances were table salt and hydrogen peroxide. 22% of the owners answering the survey reported having succeeded in inducing emesis (with or without consultation).

If available, 74% of the owners would be interested in using a prescription medicine to safely induce vomiting at home. However, most owners (86%) would still consult a veterinarian to check if induction of vomiting is the right option.

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

The survey increases the knowledge about dogs' habit of eating unsuitable material and the consequent measures taken at home including owners' willingness to consult a veterinarian in those situations.

Utility of C-reactive protein as a biomarker of remission in immune-mediated polyarthritis in dogs

Aimee Taylor¹, Jenny Reeve¹, Vicki Black², Fiona Whitworth²

¹ The University of Bristol, Bristol, United Kingdom
² Langford Vets, Bristol, United Kingdom

OBJECTIVES

To assess the validity of C-reactive protein (CRP) as a biomarker of resolution of neutrophilic joint inflammation

in dogs undergoing treatment for immune-mediated polyarthritis (IMPA).

METHODS

Medical records at Langford Vets were retrospectively reviewed to identify dogs diagnosed with type I or III IMPA between 2016 and 2019. Dogs were required to have undergone re-examination including CRP analysis and arthrocentesis, from at least three joints, within six weeks of diagnosis. CRP was compared to joint cytology. The hypothesis was that CRP would represent a sensitive marker for neutrophilic inflammation compatible with ongoing joint inflammation in dogs undergoing treatment for IMPA.

RESULTS

Nine dogs were included in the study. At the time of re-assessment all dogs were receiving prednisolone (1.9–2.1mg/kg/day) and two cases were also receiving