group compared to D0 from D7 (–53%) reaching the lowest score at D24 (–91%), $p < 0.05$.

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

The combination of Ophytrium- and Seboliance-containing shampoo and subsequent mousse every

48–72 hours can be recommended as a convenient protocol to improve hair coat quality in seborrheic dogs, from the first week, with a maximal improvement on D24 and no side effects.

Resistance of canine *Staphylococcus pseudintermedius* to selected topical and systemic antimicrobials in the UK

Zoe Donovan

University of Liverpool, Liverpool, United Kingdom

OBJECTIVES

Canine methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus pseudintermedius* (MRSP) is a growing concern due to the wide range of infections this bacterial strain causes. Carriage of the *mecA* gene and penicillin binding protein 2A causes resistance to beta-lactam antimicrobials. This project aimed to (1) investigate phenotypic oxacillin (methicillin) resistance based on CLSI breakpoints compared to EUCAST breakpoints, (2) investigate the carriage of the *mecA* gene using PCR analysis, (3) compare the carriage of these genes to phenotypic oxacillin resistance using both published breakpoints, (4) compare the presence of

mecA gene (gold-standard) for the detection of MRSP with two different selective agars.

METHODS

PCR analysis was used to identify the presence of MRSP and MSSP isolates, followed by further PCR analysis to identify the carriage of the *mecA* gene. These isolates underwent susceptibility testing using BSAC/CLSI/EUCAST breakpoints and various antibiotics including oxacillin, then testing with two different selective agars. Selected isolates underwent PBP2a testing.

RESULTS

After PCR analysis, 56.73% isolates were identified as *mecA* positive. EUCAST breakpoints correctly identified 57.90% isolates as resistant and CLSI breakpoints correctly identified 47.95% of samples as resistant. Brilliance-MRSA-2 agar correctly identified 45.03% of isolates as positive and MSA-1%-oxacillin agar correctly identified 44.44% of isolates as positive. PBP2a correctly identified 33.33% of isolates as positive.

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

PCR analysis was confirmed as the gold-standard of testing. EUCAST breakpoints were the next most effective test, followed by CLSI breakpoints, Brilliance agar, MSA agar and PBP2a testing. These tests could be used as screening to decide which isolates need further analysis by PCR.

On the feasibility of remote diagnosis of canine dermatology conditions

Trevor Hardcastle

Vet-AI Ltd, Salisbury, United Kingdom

OBJECTIVES

To measure the extent to which veterinary professionals may be measurably compromised in their ability to issue accurate diagnoses of canine dermatology conditions on a digital device without being physically present with the patient.

METHODS

Three veterinary dermatology specialists from different parts of the country assessed their routine canine dermatology cases in-clinic (10 cases each), and took photographs of the affected area using smartphones. These photographs, along with signalment and clinical notes, were uploaded to an online database. Each specialist then diagnosed each other's cases online, blinded to the in-clinic diagnosis, choosing from a list of 58 skin conditions. The agreement between the definitive diagnosis issued in-clinic and the (up to three) differential diagnoses issued online was measured using Cohen's kappa statistic.

RESULTS

The agreement between the definitive diagnoses (in-clinic) and first-differential diagnoses (remote) was excellent, with kappa = 0.82. The extent to which the definitive diagnosis was contained in the list of up to three differential diagnoses – a measure of the remote