The use of pleural port and intra-cavitary chemotherapy in treatment of thoracic mesothelioma in 13 dogs

Hanne Moberg, Irina Gramer

Royal Veterinary College, Hatfield, United Kingdom

OBJECTIVES

Mesothelioma is a neoplasm affecting the mesothelial lining causing marked cavitory effusion. Sadly, many dogs are euthanized at the time of diagnosis due to the lack of satisfactory treatment options. The purpose of this study was to evaluate safety and efficacy of treatment with pleural port placement followed by intra-cavitary chemotherapy in dogs with pleural or pericardial mesothelioma.

METHODS

Medical records of dogs with a histologically confirmed diagnosis of pleural or pericardial mesothelioma treated

with intra-cavitary chemotherapy (n = 13) were retrospectively reviewed. Data collected included response to treatment protocols, therapy, pleural port associated complications, acute and chronic drug toxicity and overall survival time.

RESULTS

Thirteen dogs met the inclusion criteria. The most commonly used first-line protocol was weekly intra-cavitary 5-Fluorouracil (150 mg/m²), while the use of rescue protocols was variable including intra-cavitary and/or intra-venous carboplatin, mitoxantrone, and bleomycin. Grade 1 gastrointestinal toxicity was noted in three dogs after intra-cavitary 5-Fluorouracil administration, and one dog had a grade 1 neutropenia after intra-cavitary carboplatin administration. Pleural port associated complications were reported in n = 5 dogs and included obstruction (n = 3), infection (n = 1) and pneumothorax (n = 1). The median survival time (MST) for all dogs was 200 days (RI; 23–938 days).

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

Pleural port-placement followed by intra-cavitary chemotherapy treatment was well tolerated and is a valid palliative treatment option in dogs diagnosed with pleural or pericardial mesothelioma. However, the efficacy of chemotherapy treatment in these patients remains uncertain and further research is warranted.

Palliative radiotherapy for oral non-lingual and non-tonsillar SCC in dogs: A retrospective study of 21 cases from two referral centres in the UK

Andrea Mosca¹, Danielle Gibson², Sarah L Mason², Jane Dobson¹, Antonio Giuliano¹

1 The Queen's Veterinary School Hospital, Cambridge University Veterinary School, Cambridge, United Kingdom

2 Southfields Veterinary Specialists, Laindon, United Kingdom

OBJECTIVES

Squamous cell carcinoma (SCC) is the second most frequent tumour of the oral cavity in dogs. Surgery with

or without the addition of radiotherapy (RT) is the treatment of choice with long survival times achievable. Finely fractionated radiotherapy alone is also effective in the long-term control of the disease, however the benefits and side effects of palliative hypofractionated radiotherapy for oral non-tonsillar and non-lingual SCC has not been extensively reported.

METHODS

In this study 21 cases from two referral centres receiving hypofractionated radiotherapy for gross or incompletely resected SCC were retrospectively evaluated.

RESULTS

All dogs received a four-weekly course of palliative radiotherapy, eight dogs in the adjuvant setting and 13 dogs had advanced gross disease.

Overall response rate was 77% for the dogs receiving treatment for macroscopic disease. Three cases developed severe late side effects (oro-nasal fistula and bone necrosis) that resulted in euthanasia in one case. Time to progression (TTP) and median survival time (MST) for dogs with gross disease were 121 days (60–1095 days) and 182 days (60–1095 days) respectively.