The relationships between the behavioural tool, the bio-marker and CIAE were assessed for statistical significance.

RESULTS

There was no statistically significant increase in nausea behaviours over time. The strongest differences in behaviour for patients revisiting the clinic for chemotherapy was a 17% increase of salivation score ($P = 0.264$). No association between intensity of CIAE and anticipatory nausea was found.

AVP had a tendency to decrease with visit number ($P = 0.054$). Two dogs had markedly higher AVP concentrations than the rest of the group. Overall, there was no statistically significant correlation between AVP and nausea scores.

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

The results from this small scale study do not support the consistency of chemotherapy induced anticipatory nausea, although in some patients receiving repeated injectable chemotherapy, a conditioned anticipatory nausea response did develop.

Management of suspected canine multicentric lymphoma in UK first opinion practice

Konstantinos Rigas¹, David Singleton², David Killick¹

- 1 University of Liverpool, Small animal Teaching hospital, Liverpool, United Kingdom
- 2 University of Liverpool, Epidemiology and Population Health, Liverpool, United Kingdom

OBJECTIVES

Describe management of cases of suspected canine multicentric lymphoma in first opinion practice (FOP) and investigate whether socioeconomic factors are associated with management.

METHODS

Clinical narratives from electronic health records collected by the Small Animal Veterinary Surveillance Network (SAVSNET) were searched. Peripheral lymphadenomegaly

cases in which multicentric lymphoma was the recorded as the top differential were grouped into those in which a diagnosis was made (ML) or suspected (MLS) and included in this study. Associations between management and socio-economic factors (Indices of Multiple Deprivation, IMD) were assessed.

RESULTS

In total, 373 with ML and 381 MLS were identified.

A diagnosis was made in 43% of dogs residing in more deprived areas of England and 55% in dogs in the less deprived half. A diagnosis was equally likely in insured and non-insured patients (both 50%).

Corticosteroid monotherapy was the most commonly prescribed therapy in both groups (58.3% MLS, 45% ML) followed by chemotherapy (35% ML) and euthanasia (25.2% MLS, 6.9% ML). 9.6% of cases were referred.

Within ML cases frequency of treatment with multi-agent chemotherapy was similar between groups residing in areas in the higher and lower halves of the IMD (27% vs 24%), but insured patients received chemotherapy more frequently than non-insured (49% vs 39%).

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

A minority of suspected lymphoma cases are referred. Therefore, a greater understanding of management of suspected lymphoma in FOP is required to guide vets and clients. Socioeconomic inequalities impact diagnosis and management of suspected lymphoma cases in FOP.

Clinical Presentation of Canine Insulinoma: 32 Cases (2009–2019)

Daniel Ryan, Anna Sunol

Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, Edinburgh, United Kingdom

OBJECTIVES

To describe the clinical presentation in dogs diagnosed with insulinoma in a referral hospital.

METHODS

Dogs diagnosed with insulinoma between 2009–2019 were retrospectively reviewed. The inclusion criteria were a paired glucose (low) and insulin (normal or high) combined with an imaging report suggestive of an insulinoma, or histopathological confirmation.

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RESULTS

Thirty-two cases were included. Females were over-represented (75%; 24/32). Median age at presentation was 9 years (range 4–13). Three cases (9.4%) presented with one clinical sign only, and 29 (90.6%) presented with a combination. The most common clinical sign was a change in mentation (59.3%; 19/32), further split into obtundation (84.2%; 16/19) and changes in behaviour (42.1%; 8/19). The second most common presentation was weakness (56.3%; 18/32); which was further split into generalised (72.2%; 13/18), posterior weakness (22%; 4/18) and exercise intolerance (16.6%; 3/18). Additional commonly reported signs included ataxia (34.4%; 11/32) muscle fasciculation (34.4%; 11/32), epileptic seizures (31.3%; 10/32), collapse (25%; 8/32), polyphagia (6.3%;

2/32), PUPD (3.1%; 1/32) and paroxysmal dyskinesia (3.1%; 1/32). The two most common paired clinical signs were a change in mentation and weakness (37.9%; 11/29). The median duration of clinical signs prior to diagnosis was 1.5 months (range 1 day–3 years).

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

The results of this study suggest that the clinical presentation of canine insulinoma differs from what has previously been reported, with mentation and behavioural changes being more common than weakness and epileptic seizures. Therefore, better understanding of this clinical presentation could enhance the diagnostic work up of these patients and lead to earlier tumour diagnosis.

Lomustine, methotrexate, and cytarabine chemotherapy as a rescue treatment for feline lymphoma

Katherine Smallwood¹, Aaron Harper²,
Laura Blackwood¹

1 Institute of Veterinary Science, University of Liverpool, Leahurst Campus, Neston, United Kingdom

2 Southfields Veterinary Specialists, Essex, United Kingdom

OBJECTIVES

Assess the efficacy and tolerability of lomustine, methotrexate, and cytarabine chemotherapy as rescue for feline lymphoma.

METHODS

Medical records of fifteen cats treated with lomustine, methotrexate and cytarabine for relapsed high-grade feline lymphoma, at a single institution between 2013 and 2018, were examined. All anatomical types were included. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics.

RESULTS

Nine cats received all three drugs, four cats received only two drugs due to progressive disease, and two cats intentionally received only two drugs. In cats that received (or in which there was intention to treat with) all three drugs, 6/13 (46%) demonstrated a response to chemotherapy. The cat that intentionally received only lomustine and cytarabine achieved partial remission. The cat that intentionally received only lomustine and methotrexate experienced progressive disease. Treatment was generally well tolerated, although two cats experienced Veterinary Comparative Oncology Group (VCOG) grade 3 neutropenia and one cat experienced VCOG grade 3 thrombocytopenia. The median progression-free survival (PFS) time was 42 days (range: 16–1246), independent of the inclusion/exclusion of the two cats that intentionally received only two drugs.

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

COP and CHOP are established first-line chemotherapy for feline lymphoma, but standard rescue protocols are lacking. Lomustine has become a popular single agent option, but prolonged or cumulative myelosuppression can result in treatment delays risking relapse. Therefore, a multidrug lomustine based protocol may be advantageous, and from first principles, should also better overcome resistance. This study suggests that lomustine, methotrexate and cytarabine may represent an efficacious and well tolerated protocol for feline lymphoma rescue.

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