Oral presentations

Factors associated with positive urine cultures in cats with subcutaneous ureteral bypass system (SUB) implantation

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OBJECTIVES

To report the postoperative incidence of SUB infection and associated risk factors.

METHODS

Data was collected from the clinical records of cats with SUBs placed between 16/04/12 and 06/09/19. Cases without follow-up culture were excluded. Binomial linear regression and chi squared testing was performed to assess the relationship between various factors and likelihood of post-operative positive cultures.

RESULTS

118 cases were included. 33.9% had a positive post-operative culture, ten within one month, 15 within three months and 29 within 12 months post-surgery.

The most common organisms isolated within one month post-surgery were *Escherichia coli* (40%) and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (30%).

110 cats had a pre-operative culture performed, 12.7% were positive. The most frequent isolates were *E. coli* (42.9%) and *Enterococcus faecalis* (28.6%).

Cats with a positive pre-operative culture were more likely to have a positive post-operative culture within six months post-operatively ($p = 0.03$). This was not statistically significant at one, three or 12 months post-surgery.

Cats with lower end-anaesthetic temperatures were more likely to return a positive culture by one ($p = 0.005$) and three months ($p = 0.003$) post-surgery, but not by six ($p = 0.22$) or twelve months ($p = 0.564$) post-surgery.

Signalment, weight, condition score, perioperative antibiotic, placement reason, implant site, outdoor access, pre-operative urea, creatinine, urine pH and specific gravity, length of hospitalisation, anaesthetic and surgery were not significantly correlated with likelihood of returning a positive culture at any time-point.

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

Cats with positive pre-operative cultures or lower end-anaesthetic temperature were more likely to return positive cultures post-surgery; these findings may guide management of cats presenting with ureteral obstruction.

Use of the 'Functional Evaluation of Cardiac Health' (FETCH) questionnaire to determine quality of life before and after mitral valve repair surgery in dogs

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OBJECTIVES

To report changes in owner assessed quality of life (QOL) for dogs with myxomatous mitral valve disease (MMVD) pre- and post- mitral valve repair (MVR)

METHODS

Dogs were included in the study if they underwent MVR for MMVD at our institution between October 2017–July 2019, survived to discharge, and their owners completed the FETCH questionnaire prior to surgery and at least one month after surgery. A FETCH score was created by adding question scores to create a possible total of 80, with a higher score equating to a worse QOL.

Data were tested for normality and a Wilcoxon signed rank test was used to assess any change in score for individual questions and the total FETCH score, pre- and post-surgery. Significance was set at $p = <0.05$.

RESULTS

22 dogs met the inclusion criteria. Mean age was 9.3 years (SD 2.04), the most common breeds were Cavalier King Charles Spaniels and Chihuahuas (both 27.3%).

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