RESULTS

This investigation found no significant difference in spinal tapering between any of the individual groups either at the midpoint of the vertebrae or at the intervertebral disc measurements.

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

This study found no evidence that cervical spinal canal tapering influences SM and therefore, unlike spinal canal curvature, this parameter does not need to be accounted for in computer modelling studies.

Topiramate as adjunctive therapy to manage post-traumatic mutilation in 3 cats

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OBJECTIVES

Topiramate is, a sulfamate-substituted derivative of D-fructose most commonly used as an anti-epileptic drug but with some advocacy for treatment of neuropathic pain. Recently its use has been described in feline hyperaesthesia syndrome and feline ulcerative dermatitis. We describe it for management of suspected post-traumatic neuropathic pain and mutilation in 3 cats.

METHODS

All cats were presented with mutilation of a body part after trauma. Case 1 – tail stump mutilation after tail pull

injury and amputation; motor and sensory function returned to the stump post amputation. Case 2 – foot mutilation after coxofemoral joint surgery and damage to the sciatic nerve. Case 3 – tail and left foot mutilation following pelvic fracture (ilial body fracture and sacroiliac luxation). All cases had made a poor or insufficient improvement on other therapy. Topiramate was added to existing therapy at 5mg/kg BID (Case 1 and 2) and 2.5mg/kg BID (Case 3). The other drugs used in combination therapy were pregabalin (Case 1 and Case 3) and gabapentin and prednisolone (Case 2). Other medications used unsuccessfully in the cats were methylprednisolone, tramadol, gabapentin, meloxicam, amantadine and amitriptyline.

RESULTS

The addition of topiramate had a satisfactory outcome in all cats but may have predisposed diarrhoea in Case 3. Case 1 continued pregabalin and topiramate long term; withdrawal resulted in recurrence of signs. Case 2 and 3 was eventually weaned off all treatment.

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

Post traumatic neuropathic pain and mutilation can be challenging to manage. Topiramate may be a useful adjunctive therapy in the cat.