Poster presentations

An investigation into antibiotic prescribing behaviours in small animal practice to improve antibiotic stewardship

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OBJECTIVES

The use of antibiotics for common suspected bacterial infections were characterised. Veterinarian's prescribing behaviours were compared with this data to investigate possible practice specific interventions.

METHODS

Two retrospective clinical audits (clinical records data from January to December 2018) and a questionnaire survey for prescribing veterinarians was implemented in one small animal first opinion practice in Kent in February 2019. The

combined data was analysed using descriptive statistics. Results were compared against 'Gold Standard' guidelines; ISCAID guidelines of 2017, and Beco et al, 2013.

RESULTS

100 cases of bacterial respiratory tract infections and pyoderma were recorded in two separate audits. Six veterinarians responded to the questionnaire. 83% of Vets agreed 'best practice' antibiotic prescription is often unrealistic, due to 'owner/financial constraints'. Majority of cases were prescribed antibiotics without culture and sensitivity testing (88%; respiratory, 94%; pyoderma). Pyoderma treatments (amoxiclav and cephalexin) were prescribed for incorrect prescription lengths (56% – 5–10 days) and dose. Re-check appointments were arranged in 48% and 75% of cases prescribed AM's for respiratory and pyoderma cases respectively. 83.33% vets felt a practice policy regarding antibiotic usage would be useful, and 50% felt a practice centred guideline would be more achievable compared to national guidelines.

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

This study demonstrated a clear difference between 'Gold Standard' guidelines and antibiotic prescription in practice. It is therefore our conclusion that a clinical sign based practice policy for antibiotic prescription could minimise antibiotic use in small animal practice and refine antibiotic treatment to contribute towards decreasing antimicrobial resistance.

Adverse Reaction to Topical Clotrimazole Therapy for Canine Sinonasal Aspergillosis

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OBJECTIVES

To describe the clinical features, treatment and outcome of three dogs that developed hypoglycaemia following topical clotrimazole therapy for sinonasal aspergillosis.

METHODS

Clinical files were reviewed.

RESULTS

Cases were diagnosed with sinonasal aspergillosis following CT and rhinoscopy. Topical clotrimazole was instilled into their frontal sinuses via trephination. Recovery from anaesthesia was uneventful.

Case 1

A 3-year-old female standard poodle. Twelve hours following treatment she became tachycardic, pyrexia, inappetent and hypoxaemic. Aspiration pneumonia was diagnosed via radiography.

Intravenous antibiotics, nebulisation and coupage were started. Despite this, she became collapsed, hypotensive and hypoglycaemic (1.9mmol/L) with worsening hypoxaemia and a marked left-shift neutrophilia. Hypoadrenocorticism was ruled out.

Intravenous glucose was initiated alongside oxygen therapy. Hypoglycaemia resolved, clinical signs improved and she was discharged.

Case 2

An 11-year-old female Pyrenean mountain dog. The day following treatment she became tachycardic, pyrexia, hypoglycaemic (1.6mmol/L), hypoxaemic and developed

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a novel systolic heart murmur. Intravenous glucose and glucagon corrected the hypoglycaemia. Based upon the clinical deterioration and perceived poor prognosis her owners opted for euthanasia.

Case 3

A 6-year-old male neutered miniature poodle. Twelve hours following treatment he became subdued, lethargic and hypoglycaemic (2mmol/L). Aspiration pneumonia was diagnosed via radiography.

Oxygen therapy, antibiotics and intravenous glucose were started with an initial improvement in signs and correction of hypoglycaemia. He died the following day.

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

These cases represent a rare and previously unreported consequence of topical nasal clotrimazole therapy in the dog. This complication may be homologous to azole-induced hypoglycaemia described in human medicine rather than sepsis.