

CLINICAL STUDY ON CANINE OTITIS EXTERNA USING A TOPICAL MICONAZOLE- AND A MICONAZOLE-PREDNISOLONE-SUSPENSION.

W. Osthold*, J. Beck**, E. Müller*** and D. Geier-Dömling***

Tierärztliche Klinik am Bökelberg, Saumstr. 57, D-41063 Mönchengladbach*

Drs. Beck, Burghoff und Graefenstedt, v. Goldammerstr. 15, D-41515 Grevenbroich** Laboklin,
Prinzregentenstr. 3, D-97688 Bad Kissingen***

Introduction

Treatment of canine Otitis externa (O.e.) is routinely topical and based on antibacterial, antifungal and anti-inflammatory therapy, i.e. corticosteroids. Veterinarians feel that corticosteroids enhance the efficacy of antibiotics. In many cases progressive pathological changes or at least inflammation of the ear have come to a stage where corticosteroids are required. To date there is no controlled study on this. Furthermore, an antifungal therapy alone should work theoretically when yeasts are the only microorganisms involved.

Material and methods

58 dogs with clinical signs and cytology of O.e. erythematosa and ceruminosa were included. Malassezia-yeasts were the dominating perpetuating factors. 31 dogs were treated with a 2 % Miconazole-Miglyol®-Suspension, 27 dogs with a 2 % Miconazole - 1 % Prednisolone - Miglyol ©-Suspension. Clinical evaluation (discomfort, erythema, swelling, exudation, colour and odour), cytology, bacteriological and fungal identification were done initially, on day 10 or 11, and on day 20 or 21.

Results

50 dogs completed the study. The results with Miconazole alone were excellent in 16 % of the cases, good in 39 %, satisfactory in 19 % and unsatisfactory in 26 %. Therapy with Miconazole and Prednisolone in combination showed significantly better results: excellent in 40 %, good in 26 %, satisfactory in 30 % and unsatisfactory in only 4 % of the cases.

Conclusions

Canine O.e. erythematosa and ceruminosa perpetuated mainly by yeasts can be treated with fairly good results with Miconazole alone, however, clinical efficacy will be much higher, if Miconazole is combined with Prednisolone. Treatment of canine O.e. obviously requires steroids, the inflammatory changes of the pinna and ear canal possibly being another perpetuating factor per se in O.e. These results raise the question whether routine medication with antifungal *and* antibacterial therapy is always necessary.