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A pilot study: A new supplement with anti-inflammatory effect in dogs with osteoarthritis

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Statement of the Problem: Osteoarthritis (OA) is a very common debilitating condition affecting humans and animals. The progression of the disease leads to lameness, pain, mobility limitations and it compromises the overall quality of life. There is no definitive cure but an increasing interest in the use of diet supplements given their efficacy and safety, being the traditional drugs of variable efficacy and associated with side effects, toxicities, and low tolerance over time (i.e. NSAIDs, Corticosteroids). The purpose of this study is to highlight the anti-inflammatory effect of a new canine diet supplement produced by the Candioli Pharma SpA (Italy) in a group of dogs with OA.

Methodology: This pilot study was performed on client owned dogs (n=11) with Osteoarthritis (OA) and reporting chronic pain. Tablets containing a preparation of natural ingredients: Cannabidiol (CBD), Casperome® (Indena) and MELOFEED® (Lallemand Animal Nutrition) were given to dogs. The treatment lasted 30 days. Efficacy and safety of the product was assessed by veterinarians and by owners using a specific questionnaire on chronic pain.

Findings: 8 out of 11 (73%) dogs completed the study. The supplement was well tolerated (82%), only one dog reported episodes of diarrhea. Owners reported a very easy administration and good palatability of the tablets. In terms of effectiveness, there was a good agreement between veterinarians and owners. An overall improvement of pain condition, dog mood, behavior, postural and movement was reported in all animals after at least 15 days of treatment.

Conclusion & Significance: This pilot study suggests that our supplement can be a good anti-inflammatory alternative therapy able to reduce chronic pain and improve the quality of life in dogs with OA.

Recent Publications

1. Ahasan, Asml G Invernizzi and G Farina (2019) The effects of superoxide dismutase-rich melon pulp concentrate on inflammation, antioxidant status and growth performance of challenged post-weaning piglets. *Animal* 13(1):136-143.
2. Ravalli S, M A Szychlinska, R M Leonardi and G Musumeci (2018) Recently highlighted nutraceuticals for preventive management of osteoarthritis. *World J Orthop* no. 9 (11):255- 261.
3. Bruni N, C Della Pepa, S Oliaro-Bosso, E Pessione, D Gastaldi and F Dosio (2018) Cannabinoid Delivery Systems for Pain and Inflammation Treatment. *Molecules* 23 (10).
4. Comblain F, Serisier S, Barthelemy N, Balligand M, Henrotin Y (2016) Review of dietary supplements for the management of osteoarthritis in dogs in studies from 2004 to 2014. *J Vet Pharmacol Ther* 39: 1-15.

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5. Reichling J, H Schmokel, J Fitzi, S Bucher and R Saller (2004) Dietary support with Boswellia resin in canine inflammatory joint and spinal disease. Schweiz Arch Tierheilkd no. 146 (2): 71-9.

Biography

Elisa Martello is a Veterinarian with a strong interest and background in Animal Health, Nutrition, Epidemiology, Public Health and Systematic Literature review. She is carrying out a lot of work on innovative food supplements for companion animals in particular on providing evidence on their efficacy and usefulness in practice.

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