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Investigation of poor performance in racing horses with special reference to cardiac and oxidative stress biomarkers

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Poor performance is an important problem facing all equine sport disciplines. It creates great medical and economic concerns. In order to investigate the role of cardiac and oxidative stress markers in poor performance in racing horses. Sixty racing horses for 60 km endurance race were selected in this study. Blood samples were collected from all horses before racing and after finishing the race. Blood was examined for cardiac troponin I (cTnI), malondialdehyde (MDA), super oxide dismutase (SOD) and reduced glutathione (GSH). The horses that complete and those unable to complete the race will be categorized into another additional groups (horses with poor performance and horses with good performance). The laboratory results revealed a significant elevation in the values of cTnI (0.62 ± 0.76), MDA (9.3 ± 1.13) with significant decrease in the values of SOD (68.5 ± 18.25) and GSH (1.5 ± 1.2) in horses after racing when compared with the same levels before racing (0.02 ± 0.003 , 1.03 ± 0.08 , 111.8 ± 4.3 , 2.9 ± 0.33 respectively). Moreover there were significant elevation in the values of cTnI (1.86 ± 0.98) and MDA (10.9 ± 0.79) with significant decrease in the levels of SOD (63.7 ± 0.43) and GSH (1.31 ± 0.02) in horses with poor performance when compared with those of good performance (0.35 ± 0.65 , 9.31 ± 1.01 , 111.8 ± 4.32 , 1.59 ± 1.2 respectively). Furthermore, there was an optimistic correlation ($P < 0.0001$) exert between cTnI& MDA levels and negative correlations exist between cTnI and either SOD ($P < 0.0001$) or GSH ($P < 0.05$) in horses under investigation. The present study throws the light on the role of cTnI and oxidative stress markers in cases of poor performance in endurance racing horses. Moreover, open a new insight on the possible cardiac injury in racing horses because of increased oxidative stress.

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Veterinary apitherapy and aromatherapy: Case reports and research outcomes

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Complementary and alternative veterinary medicine is an inclusive term that describes treatments, therapies, and modalities that are not accepted as components of main-stream veterinary education or practice, but that are performed on animals by some practitioners. Ancient civilizations used bee products for both humans and animals, but modern civilization and education have seriously lessened our natural instinctive ability and capability. Despite the fact that the modern Western establishment appears to like to relegate apitherapy and aromatherapy to the status of 'folklore' or 'old wives' tales', bee products and medicinal plants contain a vast spread of pharmacologically-active ingredients and each one has its own unique combination and properties. They are classified in modern herbal medicine according to their spheres of action. Recognized actions include anthelmintic, anti-catarrhal, anti-emetic, anti-inflammatory, anti-oxidant, anti-bacterial, anti-fungal, anti-spasmodic, astringent, diuretic, expectorant, sedative, stimulant and tonic. In our research and clinical background, we have used bee products and medicinal plants to solve some animal pathologic problems such as mastitis in dairy herds, dermatology in carnivores, bone and skin grafts, burn and wound management etc.

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