

BTm

BIOLOGISCHE TIERMEDIZIN

Separate: Vol. VIII, No. 4, 1991

pp. 115-122.

Traumeel® ad us. vet.
as Basic Therapeutic Agent
in the Veterinary Treatment
of Small Animals

by Dr. Heidrun Gratz, M.D. (vet.)

Traumeel® ad us. vet. as Basic Therapeutic Agent in the Veterinary Treatment of Small Animals

by Dr. Heidrun Gratz, M.D. (vet.)

Summary

Results of a study on the application of Traumeel ad us. vet., as basic therapeutic agent in the treatment of small animals, were documented in the form of records from medical treatment of 84 animals. The cases were broken down into special areas of disease or injury. The animals treated included dogs, cats, pet birds, pygmy hamsters, guinea pigs, and golden hamsters. Traumeel ad us. vet. was applied in this study in all available forms of administration: as injections, tablets, drops, and ointment. The preparation was used alone or in combination with other remedies.

The primary area of administration for Traumeel has proved to be traumata and disorders of the musculoskeletal system. It has further demonstrated its effectiveness in treatment of inflammation of various organ systems, as well as for a great number of cases with indefinite diagnosis.

On the basis of its composition, Traumeel is indicated not only for traumata on the macro and micro scales, but also represents – as a result of its anti-phlogistic, anti-exudative, hemostatic, analgesic, antiallergic, and regenerative effects – a highly promising form of basic therapy for all inflammatory processes.

The data contained in my patient files verifies the indications outlined above. I classified the cases in which I applied Traumeel ad us. vet. in the following four main categories (Table I):

Table I: Primary indications for the use of Traumeel ad us. vet.:

- I. Traumata
- II. Affections of the skeletal and locomotor systems of the body
- III. Inflammatory disorders of other organ systems
- IV. Cases with indefinite diagnosis.

The therapeutic effects of Traumeel result in accordance with the synergistic combination effect as formulated by Bürgi, and as a consequence of the single botanical and mineral / chemical remedies which it contains. These single constituent agents are characterized by the following properties:

1. The therapeutic effects of mercurius, which regulate inflammatory and combat viral processes.
2. Vascular-toning effects from arnica and aconitum. Elimination of venous stasis through the antithrombotic effects of hamamelis. Hemostatic effects, together with normalization of the prothrombin level by millefolium. Vascular sealing action through calcium.
3. Support and enhancement of cellular oxidation processes, from the calcium sulfide in hepar sulfuris.
4. Stimulation of the greater defense system.
5. Effective treatment of shock through the effects of arnica and belladonna, especially following accidents.
6. Stimulation of wound healing through aconitum, arnica, calendula, echinacea, and symphytum.
7. Analgesic action through aconitum, arnica, belladonna, chamomilla, hamamelis, and hypericum.
8. Hemostatic action in venous areas, through aconitum, arnica, and hamamelis; in arterial areas from hypericum and millefolium.

The following contains elaboration on the above-stated four primary areas of application of Traumeel ad us. vet. Since most animals do not exhibit the typical symptom pictures, and since their owners usually cannot provide sufficient information in this regard, I prefer to administer combination homeopathic preparations. I exclusively apply biological remedies in around 50% of the cases which I treat. In most other cases, I administer them at least as adjuvant therapy.

I. Traumata

The veterinary treatment of small animals routinely involves patients which are the victims of injuries to more or less serious degrees, as they result from traffic accidents, falls, beating and other blows, bites, burns, and the like. The cases included in this study entailed the treatment of hematomas, fractures, contusions, sprains commotio cerebri, and phlegmon for a variety of types of small animals: 8 dogs, 11 cats, and 4 pet birds.

Selected exemplary cases:

1. Tomcat, 1 year old, automobile accident

Findings: Severe contusions on the right side of the head, with an extensive hematoma on one eye; bloody nose; respiratory difficulty; the owner brought the animal at night.

Therapy: 4.0 ml of Traumeel SC; additionally pen / strep, Fortekortin, local eye ointment.

Results: Only slight swelling the next morning; prolapse of the dermis; hematoma; anesthetic, reposition, suturing of the eyelid; administration of voren, pen, strep, multivitamins; eye in normal position the next day; no longer swelling of the wounded body parts; eyelids open; as post treatment and for therapy of the hematoma: continuation of Traumeel, 1 tablet twice a day for four days; eye ointment.

2. Yorkshire terrier, female, 8 months old, injury after falling from the owner's arm, severe lameness of the right rear leg

Diagnosis: Sprain of the right hip

Therapy: 1 ml of Traumeel SC; oral administration of Traumeel drops, 5 drops 3 times a day.

Results: Significant improvement within 24 hours; oral therapy continued for 5-6 days.

3. House cat, 2 years old, male, injury probably from a traffic accident, or a fall from a great height

Findings: Paresis of the rear paw; only a weak reaction to pinching on one leg only; the cat can sit up on its front legs without pain; X-ray reveals nothing abnormal.

Diagnosis: Suspicion of contusion or hematoma in the spinal region.

Therapy: 1 ampule of each of the following SC: Traumeel, Cralonin, and Spascupreel; oral administration for 1-2 days of 5-6 drops every hour of a mixture of the following: Discus compositum, Cralonin, Hypericum-Injeel, and Traumeel; afterward, this dosage 3 times a day.

Results: Bowel movement the next day; the cat allows itself to be fed; visit two days later: the cat is alert, with normal urination and defecation; good reaction upon pinching on both legs; followed by continued slow improvement of the neurological findings.

4. Parakeet (*Nymphicus hollandicus*), 3 years old, male, injury from flying against a window

Diagnosis: Commotio cerebri with paralysis of the right leg and wing.

Therapy: Traumeel, Cerebrum compositum, Cralonin, and multivitamins, administered through drinking water.

Results: Improvement after three days; treatment for one week.

5. Parakeet (*Melopsittacus undulatus*), one year old, with injured leg from being caught in the cage door; the bird does not stand on the injured leg

Diagnosis: Edematous swelling on the injured leg.

Therapy: 4.0 ml of Traumeel and a vitamin combination in 0.25 liters of drinking water; daily massage with Traumeel Ointment.

Results: Three days later, the injured leg shows no abnormal symptoms; the bird stands again on the leg; therapy continued for several days.

Traumeel can be administered by intravenous, intramuscular, subcutaneous, or periarticular injection. The veterinarian can use extremely fine cannulae (0.55 - 0.7 mm), which eliminate problems even with the most sensitive animals. Irritation of tissues does not occur. In the case of shock following accidents, intravenous injections of Traumeel mixed with Cralonin have proved effective. The dosage will depend on the size and weight of the animal, and is approximately the same for all homeopathic preparations. (See table 2.)

Table 2: Dosage of biological / homeopathic medication for small animals

Large dog: Parenteral administration of 3 - 4 ml; oral administration of 12 drops 3 times a day, or 3 tablets 3 times a day.

Medium-sized dog: Parenteral administration of 2 ml; oral administration of 10 drops 3 times a day, or 2 tablets 3 times a day.

Small dog or cat: Parenteral administration of 1 - 2 ml; oral administration of 7 drops 3 times a day, or 1 tablet 3 times a day.

Puppies and small domestic animals: Parenteral administration of 0.5 - 1 ml; oral administration of 5 drops 3 times a day, or 1/2 tablet 3 times a day.

After injection, treatment can continue with Traumeel drops or tablets. Owing to the alcohol content, the administration of Traumeel drops sometimes proves problematic for animals with sensitive taste - as is often the case with cats. In such an event, the veterinarian can use a small plastic injector to squirt the contents of a Traumeel ampule into the animal's mouth. Since the content of a Traumeel ampule has a slightly salty intrinsic taste, cats usually enjoy tasting it.

I would especially like to point out the excellent tolerance of Traumeel ointment in the therapy of accident injuries among animals. Traumeel ointment has

enabled very good results in animal surgery after accidents, since it can prevent postoperative swelling in tissues. Since contusions (as well as other injuries to tissue without lacerations) and open wounds are often found near each other on the animal's body, Traumeel has demonstrated especially good results owing to the fact that it heals open wounds without irritating the tissue or inhibiting healing in any other way.

II. Affections of the skeletal and locomotor systems (orthopedic indications)

Traumeel in all its forms of administration is indicated for many symptom pictures encountered in orthopedic practice. (See table 3.)

Table 3: Indications for Traumeel ad us. vet. in orthopedic practice

- a. Arthritis in various joints, especially in acute and subacute stages.
- b. Conditions of irritation / inflammation in periarticular connective tissue, periarthritis; epicondylitis; tenosynovitis; periarticular calcifying alterations.
- c. Cases of acute intermittent episodes of degenerative alterations in the spinal area; osteochondrosis; spondylosis; spondylopathy; discopathy; slipped intervertebral disk; dachshund lameness and the like.
- d. Inflammatory processes in articular areas; bursitis; chronic osteomyelitic purulent fistulas; long-term therapy with Traumeel ampules has proved especially effective in such cases.
- e. Diseases of the muscular apparatus of the body, as accompanied by lameness, pain, swelling, or spasmodic conditions together with paralysis; myositis traumatica; myalgia; muscular rheumatism.

Three cases follow below as examples of therapy for this group:

Selected exemplary cases:

1. Tomcat, 6 years old, with a severe limp in the left rear leg

Diagnosis: Painful gonitis.

Therapy: 2.0 ml Traumeel SC; oral administration of Traumeel drops: 6 drops three times a day.

Results: Three days later the cat still limps, but not as severely as before; limping is allegedly worse at home; oral administration now in the form of five drops of the following mixture, three times a day: Traumeel + Neuralgo-Rheum-Injeel + Calcium fluoratum-Injeel + Symphytum-Injeel; one week later, the owner reported by telephone that the tomcat now walks normally again.

2. **Dachshund, 11 years old; male; lameness since the day after a dangerous jump, especially on the left side; elimination of stool and urine in intermittent episodes; animal is very aggressive and tries to bite others, including the owner; paresis of the rear paw with loss of sensation**

Therapy: Traumeel, Hypericum-Injeel, and Cralonin SC; Traumeel orally; Nuxvomica 6X; Hypericum-Injeel; and Spascupreel.

Results: Slight reaction on the left side three days after beginning of therapy; Discus compositum and Hypericum-Injeel SC; Traumeel orally; Hypericum-Injeel and Phosphor-Injeel; after 3 more days the dog can wag its tail; Traumeel, Hypericum-Injeel, Discus compositum, and Poliomyelitis-Nosode-Injeel SC; the same mixture also provided orally; after three weeks the dog again walks normally.

3. **Parrot, 10 years old, cannot stand on its right leg or grasp with this leg**

Diagnosis: Paralysis.

Therapy: Administration via drinking water of Traumeel, Cerebrum compositum, Hypericum-Injeel, Cralonin; report by owner of considerable improvement within a few days; repetition of therapy, since the bird still shows insecurity in grasping from time to time.

III. Inflammatory disorders of other organ systems

As a result of its general antiphlogistic therapeutic action, treatment possibilities should also include Traumeel as basic therapeutic agent in cases of inflammatory processes in the various functional systems of the organism.

The anti-inflammatory and anti-viral characteristics of Traumeel are effective in therapy of affections involving the gastrointestinal tract, the urinary tract, the respiratory system, and the skin. Traumeel enhances cell respiration and stimulates the greater defense system. Of additional benefit is the analgesic effects of the preparation. Owing to the many avenues through which Traumeel acts, its use covers all the concomitant symptoms of inflammatory disorders, by means of activation of the body's own mechanisms. On the basis of this treatment, appropriate chemotherapeutic medication may also be administered as adjuvants. With this approach, the physician will repeatedly discover that the patient's general subjective feeling of health and behavior are actually better than could be expected under the circumstances represented by the remaining clinical findings. This is due to the fact that the conditions reflected by clinical findings require their own characteristic periods of time until neutralization.

I administered Traumeel for the primarily inflammatory disorders encountered in all the organ systems stated here. The following contains a number of examples for its use for animals suffering from enteritis, pharyngitis, and eczema as a reaction form of the skin.

Selected exemplary cases:

1. **Boxer, 8½ years old, male, loss of appetite for the last 5 days, vomiting, copious bloody diarrhea, complete lethargy**

Diagnosis: Suspicion of parvovirus infection.

Therapy: 14 January, morning: Konakion, pen / strep, voren, and electrolyte SC; oral administration every hour of a mixture consisting of the following: Traumeel, Mucosa compositum, Cralonin, Ubichinon compositum, and Coenzyme compositum; on the evening of the same day, the dog is considerably more lively;

was unfortunately fed by owner, which results in a great amount of bloody diarrhea; electrolyte SC; oral administration every hour of a mixture of Traumeel, Veratrum-Homaccord, and Phosphor-Homaccord.

15 January:

The dog is lively and has only slight amounts of blood in its stool; electrolyte SC; in addition, SC administration of Traumeel, Ubichinon compositum, Coenzyme compositum, Mucosa compositum, Cralonin, Spascupreel, and Nux vomica-Homaccord; this same mixture orally 3-4 times daily.

17 January:

no abnormality detected; SC administration of a mixture of the following: Traumeel, Mucosa compositum, Cralonin, Nux vomica-Homaccord, Coenzyme compositum, Ubichinon compositum.

2. **Guinea pig, 3 years old, female, has gone a whole day without eating, no abnormality detected in its teeth, well-chewed pulp of food held back in front of the pharynx**

Diagnosis: Difficulty in swallowing owing to pharyngitis

Therapy: SC administration of a mixture of Traumeel, Nux vomica, and Cralonin; oral administration of this same mixture: 2 drops taken 3 times a day; food in the form of vegetable juice, gruel, and multivitamins; 4 days later the guinea pig eats solid food for the first time again (dandelion)

3. **Parakeet (*Melopsittacus undulatus*), 1 year old, female, excessively fluid fecal evacuation**

Diagnosis: Chronic enteritis

Therapy: Administration of Traumeel and Mucosa compositum via drinking water; administration of multivitamins

Results: Improvement after 2 days; elimination normal after 1 week; bird still weak,

however; continuation of therapy as stated above; restorative medication administered, also via drinking water, of the following: Cralonin, Ubichinon compositum, and Coenzyme compositum.

4. **Parakeet (*Melopsittacus undulatus*), female, eczema on edge of wing**

Diagnosis: Weeping eczema

Therapy: 24 November: 1 ampule of Traumeel and 1 ampule of Cutis compositum per 250 ml of drinking water; administration of multivitamins; local administration of Lotagen

28 November:

Considerable improvement, but not yet completely well; oral administration of Traumeel, Cutis compositum, and Sulfur-Injeel via drinking water.

5 December:

Skin without any detected abnormality; oral administration of Traumeel and Cutis compositum.

IV. Cases with indefinite diagnosis.

All veterinary clinicians are acquainted from their own experience with cases in which animals definitely exhibit pathological symptoms – but in which these symptoms are ambiguous and allow no conclusions on causally affected functional systems. Even after thorough examination, it is often the case that only superficial symptomatic diagnosis is possible. This is especially encountered under the following circumstances:

- If the veterinarian can determine only very few, entirely non-specific symptoms: e.g., with infections in the phase before manifestation in an organ
- If – especially with small domestic animals – cost factors prohibit further examinations
- If there is only manifestation of symptoms which do not represent indications in conventional medical thought: e.g., cranial blood congestion, failure to convalesce after passing through a disease, or extreme sensitivity to weather conditions
- If symptoms are determined which do not “match”: i.e., symptoms which do not compose a linking symptom picture.

The veterinarian must somehow cope with such cases. For the animal owner, it is usually more important to arrive at some relief in the suffering of his animal than to determine causes and interrelationships down to the last detail.

With its multiplicity of therapeutic approaches, Traumeel offers the promising possibility of taking effective action in such ambiguous cases, and of covering a great number and variety of causes and processes which may be involved. Of course, specific therapy can be combined with Traumeel therapy whenever this appears appropriate.

In many cases, just such "suspicion treatment" will suffice to heal a patient with an indefinite malady and without a definite diagnosis. Or, the physician may provide just enough support to help the patient heal himself.

Selected exemplary cases:

1. Parakeet (*Melopsittacus undulatus*), 2 years old, female, shivering all over, hot feet

Diagnosis: Infection (?)

Therapy: Oral administration via drinking water of a mixture of the following: Traumeel, Cralonin, Gripp-Heel, and multivitamins.

Results: No abnormalities detected on the next day; continuation of the treatment for 4-5 days

2. Parakeet (*Nymphicus hollandicus*), 10 years old, female, the bird layed eggs continuously for weeks, now refuses to eat, significant loss of weight

Diagnosis: Ovarian dysfunction (?)

Therapy: Oral administration of Traumeel, Cralonin, and Hormeel via drinking water: 1 ampule of each per 250 ml of water; multivitamins.

Results: The bird is lively again 4 days later.

3. Parakeet (*Melopsittacus undulatus*), 6 years old, layed eggs frequently, apathetic for 1 week now, diarrhea, great loss of weight, distended abdomen

Diagnosis: Chronic indigestion; circulatory insufficiency.

Therapy: Oral administration of the following per 250 ml of drinking water: 1 ampule each of Traumeel, Nux vomica-Homaccord; Psorinoheel, Ubichinon compositum, Coenzyme compositum; 2 ampules of Cralonin.

Results: The bird is lively again after 5 days.

4. Miniature schnauzer, 6 years old, male, for several days squealing whenever it was touched on the muzzle, diarrhea, great anxiety and restlessness, almost impossible to examine

Diagnosis: Neuralgia (?)

Therapy: SC administration of Nux vomica-Homaccord and Spascupreel; oral administration of 1 Traumeel tablet 3 times a day; 5 drops daily of Neuralgiotropfen (a product of Cosmochema).

Results: Three days later, no abnormality detected.

5. Wire-haired dachshund, 6 years old, female, apathetic, shows no desire to run or eat, circulatory system with no abnormalities, no fever, no response upon attempts to elicit pain

Diagnosis: ?

Therapy: SC administration of Traumeel, Cralonin, and Spascupreel; oral administration 3-4 times daily of 8 drops consisting of a mixture of the following: 3 ampules of Traumeel, 2 ampules of Spascupreel, and 1 ampule of Cralonin.

Results: Lively again the next day.

6. Guinea pig, 6 months old, female, sudden shivering of the whole body, staggering during walking, no evident cause, a second animal of this kind in the family is normal

Diagnosis: Common cold with circulatory disorders elicited by a change in weather.

Therapy: SC administration of 2 ml from the following mixture: 1 ampule each of Traumeel, Cerebrum compositum, Gripp-Heel; 2 ampules of Cralonin; oral administration once each hour of the rest of this mixture.

Results: Improvement after 2-3 hours; continuation of treatment for 2 days.

7. Rabbit, 9 years old, male, seems downcast, refuses to eat, urinated continuously for one day, no defecation, experiences caudal pain

Diagnosis: Cystitis (?)

Therapy: Pen / strep / voren; multivitamins; oral administration 3-4 times daily of 5 drops of the following mixture: Traumeel, Gripp-Heel, Cralonin, and Solidago compositum; bowel movement the next day; eats again; lively; is housebroken again; SC administration of Nux vomica-Homaccord and Cralonin; oral administration of 5 drops taken 3 times a day of a mixture of the following: 3 ampules of Traumeel, 1 ampule of Nux vomica Homaccord, 1 ampule of Cralonin, and 1 ampule of Psorinoheel.

It is not possible in every case to determine exactly the extent and manner of contribution made by Traumeel to the overcoming of a particular disease by an animal patient. The following, however, appears evident: the broad-spectrum therapeutic action of Traumeel can eliminate a sufficient number of illness-eliciting factors such that the animal recrosses the threshold of illness, the organism reverts to its domain of self-regulation, and the organism is able to handle the disorder itself. This process takes place in the reverse sequence of that which is involved in the original development of a factor disease.

Conclusion

Traumeel may be recommended as a highly versatile preparation for the veterinary therapy of small animals, owing to its following characteristics: the extensive scope of its possibilities of application, the effectiveness of its use in combination with other homeopathic and allopathic remedies, and the variety of its forms of application. Its excellent tolerance by animals and the rapid onset of its therapeutic action contribute again and again to pleasant surprises: not least among the owners of the small animals being treated.

Address of the author:

Dr.med.vet. Heidrun Gratz
Jahnstr. 21
D - 71254 Ditzingen
Germany