

Summaries of Reports in Veterinary Medicine

Case report: Treatment of canine herniated disks

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A seven-year-old dachshund had been suffering for several years from a variety of herniated disks, some of which were chronic with paresis of the pelvic extremities. The hernias appeared every two to three months and only disappeared following repeated administration of prednisolone and vitamin B₁₂. X-rays showed clear abnormalities of the intervertebral disks T11-T12 and L3-L4.

After the most recent attack, which was accompanied by a degree of paraplegia, treatment was begun using Traumeel® and Discus® compositum for one week, then only Discus® compositum for another five weeks. The preparations were administered segmentally by intramuscular injection. Six months later, no further attacks occurred.

The use of Discus® compositum in acute lesions of bone and cartilage as well as in cases of overstressed tendons and articular capsules deserves a special mention. The ancillary preparation in such disorders is Traumeel®. I believe the selection of the appropriate medication depends strictly on the initial state of the connective tissue of the patient.

When weakness of the connective tissue is present, Discus® compositum provides multiple therapeutic action. Initially it presents an analgesic effect which lasts from a few hours up to a day and which increases its effect with each administration. In this way, the number of doses can be reduced. If a rapid improvement is not observed in acute cases, even an increase

in administration will not bring relief. Such cases call for Traumeel®, since by lessening the inflammatory reaction Discus® compositum can be used with the goal of stimulating the processes of regeneration.

As a final thought, Discus® compositum is especially indicated in the following types of cases:

- Diplasic processes in the locomotor and support function
- Degenerative changes of bone and cartilage
- Acute lesions of bone, cartilage, and tendons, due to weakness of connective tissue

Overview: Biological treatment of cats

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As in the case of other animals, cats respond quite well to non-conventional medications. As the majority of veterinary publications make reference only to pathology in canines, we can often follow the therapeutic recommendations for corresponding symptoms in cats. Nevertheless, there are certain basic differences. Among the cats which visit my practice, most of the time the diagnosis is one of viral infection, followed by lesions due to accidents and bites. Also relatively common are urinary disorders and constipation.

In approximately 50% of the felines I use exclusively biological preparations while in the others I make use of homeopathy as a concomitant therapy. Since the majority of cats do not demonstrate especially representative "symptom pic-

tures" and as their owners are not often able to supply specific information about their pets, I frequently make use of complex homeopathic medications, except in cases which are very typical. With respect to this type of preparation, it is important to recall that among cats alone there are difficulties with alcoholic dilutions. Most other animals tolerate alcohol very well.

The homeopathic therapy should be undertaken with one or two simultaneous injections and if necessary, with corresponding oral vial preparations, in doses of 5-7 drops three times daily.

This overview to feline homeopathic prescribing must be modified or complemented based on specific symptoms. Following are two areas where combination homeopathic preparations bring therapeutic success to my feline patients.

Constipation

Constipation is frequent among indoor cats, many of whom eat exclusively meat and are overweight. In addition to a change of diet with more fiber, good results can be obtained with paraffin oil as well as with Carbo vegetabilis-Injeel® forte and Nux vomica-Injeel® forte, or both single remedies at a 6X potency during a longer period of time.

Vomiting

Cases of vomiting among cats can often be quickly resolved with Spascupreel® and Nux vomica-Homaccord®. In chronic cases, when the animals vomit frequently without presenting other systemic signs, Gastricumeel® tablets can be used. Naturally, it is critical to evaluate the cat's diet and to consider possible parasitic infestation. In severe cases, electrolyte solutions must be given.