

Biological Therapy for Cats

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Introduction

The following collection of veterinary experiences illustrates the various possibilities of biological therapy in the treatment of the most common feline illnesses. As with other animals, cats respond well to biotherapy. Since many veterinary journals refer only to treatments of pathologies among dogs, we wish to make it known that preparations which are used for canine symptomatology are also valid in felines. However, from what I have observed in my office, there are differences in essential points.

Among the cats which visit my practice, the most common diagnosis is of viral infections, followed by lesions due to accidents and bites. Also relatively common are urinary problems and constipation.

In approximately 50% of my feline patients I use only biological preparations while in the rest I often make use of homeopathy as a concomitant therapy. As many animals do not show clear symptoms and since most cat owners are not able to describe all aspects of the animal's condition, I usually use combination preparations, except in cases which are truly typical.

It is important to recall that only in cats are there difficulties in administration of alcoholic solutions. My standard treatment consists of one or two injections, accompanied if necessary by simultaneous oral medication at a dosage of 5 to 7 drops three times a day.

The following cases do not claim to be complete and should be modified depending on symptoms. In these cases from my practice, I have experienced the efficacy of the preparations produced by the Heel company of Baden-Baden.

Circulatory disorders

In general, circulatory disorders are secondary manifestations which follow other illnesses or occasionally, accidents.

Cralonin[®] and Cactus compositum[®] are indicated for cardiac support related to infections or surgery. In acute disorders I use a mixture of Cralonin[®], Carbo vegetabilis-Injeel[®] or Veratrum-Injeel[®], sometimes with Camphora-Injeel[®] or a formula containing Crataegus 1X, Cactus 2X, and Veratrum 4X. Such mixtures, in addition to Traumeel[®], have been sufficient in the treatment of previous diaphragmatic hernias. The animals showed symptoms of apathy and dyspnea. Biological therapy in such patients prevented them from requiring surgery.

Nausea

The problem of minor nausea can be helped quickly with Spascupreel[®] and Nux vomica-Homaccord[®]. In chronic cases where the cat vomits frequently without other systematic symptoms, I make use of Gastricumeel[®] tablets. Naturally the owner needs to revise the animal's diet and we need to consider parasitic infestations. In addition, in severe cases it is necessary to administer electrolyte solutions.

Constipation

Indoor cats, which are fed only meat and tend toward overweight, frequently suffer from constipation. Besides increasing their dietary fiber, good results can be obtained with Carbo vegetabilis-Injeel[®] and Nux vomica-Homaccord[®], or both single remedies at a 6X potency.

Loss of appetite

Occasionally I see cats with inappetence accompanied by tympanitis. I have been unable to discover an etiology for this phenomenon. Certain cats undergo a loss of appetite from time to time. With a combined therapy of Cralonin[®], Spascupreel[®], Nux vomica-Homaccord[®], and Carbo vegetabilis-Injeel[®], first as an injection and then orally, all regain their appetite the next day. Inappetence due to absence of the

owner or stress is often treatable with Ignatia-Injeel[®].

Urinary and defecatory disorders

Disorders of urination and/or defecation following surgical intervention respond well to Natrum muriaticum-Injeel[®], and in cases of dripping urination after surgery I use Causticum-Injeel[®]. For bladder paralysis following accidents or surgery, a combination of Traumeel[®], Hypericum-Injeel[®], and Discus compositum[®] is helpful. After the acute phase I add Cerebrum compositum[®] and Poliomyelitis-Injeel[®] as auxiliary medications. Urinary disorders due to cystitis or vesical calculi can be treated with Sabal serrulatum-Injeel[®] forte. With a single injection an elimination of urine can be accomplished in many animals, even while en route to their home. In most cases it is useful to complement this therapy with Solidago compositum and depending on the origin of the disorder such as inflammation or mucosal injuries, I add Mucosa compositum[®], Echinacea compositum[®], and Traumeel[®].

Skin diseases

In skin diseases of any type I use Coenzyme compositum and Ubichinon compositum[®], administered with Cutis compositum[®]. If mycosis is suspected I also prescribe Sulfur-Injeel[®] or Natrum-Homaccord[®]. Occasionally spayed cats and overweight cats are brought to my office because they are tearing out hair from the abdomen. In many such cases I have seen good results with a mixture of Horneel, Cerebrum compositum[®], Cutis compositum[®], Coenzyme compositum, and Ubichinon compositum[®].

Injuries

Traumeel[®] is the preferred medication for injuries of all types. For suppurating wounds due to bites I use, in addition to Traumeel[®], the medication Laseptal[®]

(from Rhone Merieux) and accomplish in most cases an opening and complete draining of the abscess in 24 hours. At one time I regularly used Traumeel® in surgery, especially in spaying. However, I noticed that especially among Siamese cats a large scar developed in the area of the suture on the abdominal wall, which rarely occurs without Traumeel®. Therefore, I now use Traumeel® sparingly in surgery, for example when facing intense hemorrhaging.

Inflammation

The continued use of Traumeel® over several weeks offers much help in chronic inflammation, regardless of the etiology. I use it for problems with anal glands. In cats without parasites, a similar treatment can be given experimentally in the case of spasms of the cutaneous muscle.

Viral infections

Despite the availability of vaccinations, viral infections are very problematic in a feline clinic. In large groups of animals it is sometimes possible to attain prophylaxis by using Gripp-Heel®, Engystol®, and Viruvetsan® (Rhone Merieux). It is also possible to considerably reduce the use of antibiotics and other medicines with bio-

logical preparations. Thanks to vaccinations I have seen a dramatic reduction of cases of feline panleucopenia. However, despite vaccinations, illnesses of the respiratory tract and of the encephalic mucosa have considerably increased their persistence. Stress, brought about by overpopulation, especially in summer, is difficult to resolve. Intranasal vaccination has the advantage of facilitating a rapid immunitary protection although the animals undergo severe sneezing for several days. However if the owner is warned of this, this method of administration is well tolerated. In cases where the animal suffers inappetence, use of a mixture of Gripp-Heel®, Traumeel®, and Thuja-Injeel® often leads to a quick improvement.

If I suspect that the cat was recently infected, I first make use of Engystol® or Viruvetsan® (Rhone Merieux) and then add Gripp-Heel® as a basic remedy. If the process is accompanied by rhinitis, I add Euphorbium compositum®.

Following is a list of other useful feline medications:

- Reddened mucosal tissue: Belladonna-Homaccord®
- Mucosal lesions: Traumeel®, Mucosa compositum®

- Nasal congestion: Euphorbium compositum® nasal spray, or a mixture of Kalium arsenicosum 3X, Ammonium arsenicosum 3X, and Kalium nitricum 3X
- Watery nasal secretion: Cepa-Injeel®
- Conjunctivitis: Oculoheel
- Blepharitis: Apis-Injeel®, Rhus toxicodendron-Injeel®
- Hoarseness: Phosphor-Homaccord®
- Pharyngitis: Traumeel®, Lachesis-Injeel®, Lac caninum-Injeel®
- Pain on opening the mouth: Argentum nitricum-Injeel®
- Chronic mucosal lesions: Silicea-Injeel®
- Chronic disorders of any etiology: Sulfur-Injeel®, Formidium® (Rhone Merieux), Coenzyme compositum, Ubichinon compositum®

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