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Retrospective Study of Keratoconjunctivitis Sicca of Dogs in Korea

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This study was performed to determine the prevalence of dog with keratoconjunctivitis sicca (KCS) presented to the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital of Seoul National University. Fifty-five dogs (91eyes) with KCS were referred to the ophthalmology clinic at the VMTH of SNU form January 2005 to December 2006. Age, breed and sex data of dogs were collected form medical record with the clinical signs of KCS. Severity of KCS was determined on the basis of measured Shirmer tear test (STT) with mild (10~14mm/min), moderate (5~9mm/min), or severe (<5mm/min) and was assigned on the KCS score in dogs.

In clinical characteristics, mean age of dogs at the time of diagnosis was 7.8 years. The prevalence of female (56.3%) was slightly higher than that of male (43.7%) and Unneutered dogs (65.5%) were predominant over neutered dogs (34.5%). The most common breed with KCS was Shih Tzu (42%). In characterization of KCS, KCS occurred as bilateral condition in the majority of cases. Moderate KCS was most prevalent type in categorization of KCS on the basis of STT value. Immune mediated KCS (n=49) was most prevalent type in cause of KCS, some were metabolic KCS (n=3) and neurogenic KCS (n=2), the other was iatrogenic KCS by third eyelid removed. In treatment, some dogs were administered topical cyclosporine (n=47) with additional topical and oral medication, others were administered topical Tacrolimus (n=7) following a lack of response to cyclosporine with some topical and oral medication, and the other was administered only oral pilocarpine (n=1). The most eyes (n=61/74) improved KCS score and mean measured STT at last follow-up was improved to 7.0mm/min with cyclosporine and 11mm/min with Tacrolimus in available data.

The data of KCS in dogs obtained from this study will be utilized in diagnosis and treatment of KCS.

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