Ocular Manifestations of Lymphoma

This prospective study sought to systematically evaluate the occurrence of ocular manifestations of lymphoma in newly diagnosed, treatment-naïve cats and to document ocular changes during chemotherapy. Cats with cytologically or histologically confirmed lymphoma diagnoses had ophthalmic examinations performed on diagnosis and, if treated, repeated at follow-up appointments. Of the cats (n = 26), 12 had ocular changes; anterior or posterior uveitis was present in 58% of cats with ocular changes. Other lesions included corneal surface lesions, high-ablation retinai, iris swelling and redness, chemo- sis, and exophthalmos caused by retrobulbar mass effects. Of the 12 cats with ocular changes, 2 received chemotherapy. Complete remission of anterior and partial remission of posterior uveitis was noted in these cases. In 4 cases, ocular findings resulted in restaging from stage IV to V. Prognostic significance of the staging migration was not elucidated. The authors conclude that ophthalmic examination should be included in routine staging of cats with lymphoma, regardless of anatomic location or extent of disease.

Commentary

Ocular manifestations of lymphoma are poorly recognized in cats. This study suggests that almost 50% of cats may have uveal involvement. In reality, this incidence is likely lower. All cats with nasal lymphoma had ocular signs, which may have occurred secondary to trauma (eg, rubbing exophthalmic painful eye) or because of secondary growth of the nasal mass in the orbital space rather than lymphoma infiltration. FIT has been associated with uveitis, and not all cats were tested in this study. Finally, ocular changes were described but not evaluated with follow-up ophthalmic examinations postchemotherapy. This information would have been valuable in all cats with ocular changes. — Cecilia Robat, DVM, DACVIM (Oncology)

Source

CAPSULES

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Source

HEARTGARD Plus is recommended for dogs 6 weeks of age and older. For dogs over 100 lb use the appropriate combination of these chewables.

ADMINISTRATION: Remove only one chewable at a time from the foil-backed blister card. Return the card with the remaining chewables to its box to protect the product from light. Because most dogs find HEARTGARD Plus palatable, the product can be offered to the dog by hand. Alternatively, it may be added intact to a small amount of dog food. The chewable should be administered in a manner that encourages the dog to chew, rather than to swallow without chewing. Chewables may be broken into pieces and fed to dogs that normally swallow treats whole. Care should be taken that the dog consumes the complete dose, and treated animals should be observed for a few minutes after administration to ensure that part of the dose is not lost or rejected. If it is suspected that any of the dose has been lost, redosing is recommended.

HEARTGARD Plus should be given at monthly intervals during the period of the year when mosquitoes (vectors), potentially carrying infective heartworm larvae, are active. The initial dose must be given within a month (30 days) after the dog’s first exposure to mosquitoes. The final dose must be given within a month (30 days) after the dog’s last exposure to mosquitoes.

When replacing another heartworm-preventive product in a heartworm disease preventive program, the first dose of HEARTGARD Plus must be given within a month (30 days) of the last dose of the former medication. If the interval between doses exceeds a month (30 days), the efficacy of ivermectin can be reduced. Therefore, for optimal performance, the chewable must be given once a month or on about the same day of the month. If treatment is delayed, whether by a few days or many, immediate treatment with HEARTGARD Plus and resumption of the recommended dosing regimen will minimize the opportunity for the development of adult heartworms.

Monthly treatment with HEARTGARD Plus also provides effective treatment and control of ascards (T. canis, T. leonina) and hookworms (A. caninum, U. stenocephala, A. braziliense). Clients should be advised of measures to be taken to prevent reinfection with intestinal parasites.

EFFICACY: HEARTGARD Plus Chewables, given orally using the recommended dose and regimen, are effective against the tissue larval stage of D. immitis for a month (30 days) after infection and, as a result, prevent the development of adult heartworms. HEARTGARD Plus Chewables are also effective against canine ascards (T. canis, T. leonina) and hookworms (A. caninum, U. stenocephala, A. braziliense).

ACCEPTABILITY: In acceptability and field trials, HEARTGARD Plus was shown to be an acceptable oral dosage form that was consumed at first offering by the majority of dogs.

PRECAUTIONS: All dogs should be tested for existing heartworm infection before starting treatment with HEARTGARD Plus which is not effective against adult D. immitis. Infected dogs must be treated to remove adult heartworms and microfilariae before initiating a program with HEARTGARD Plus.

While some microfilariae may be killed by the ivermectin in HEARTGARD Plus at the recommended dose level, HEARTGARD Plus is not effective for microfilariae clearance. A mild hypersensitivity-type reaction, presumably due to dead or dying microfilariae and particularly involving a transient diarrhea, has been observed in clinical trials with microfilaria-laden dogs by administering ivermectin alone at treatment of some dogs that had circulating microfilariae. Due to this, keep all dogs off the reach of children. In case of ingestion by humans, clients should be advised to contact a physician immediately. Physicians may contact a Poison Control Center for advice concerning cases of ingestion by humans.

Store between 68°F - 77°F (20°C - 25°C). Excursions between 59°F - 86°F (15°C - 30°C) are permitted. Protect from light.

INDICATIONS: For use in dogs to prevent canine heartworm disease by eliminating the tissue stage of heartworm larvae (Dirofilaria immitis) for a month (30 days) after infection and for the treatment and control of ascards (Toxocara canis, Toxascaris leonina) and hookworms (Ankylostoma caninum, Uncinaria stenocephala, Ancylostoma braziliense).

DOSEAGE: HEARTGARD Plus (ivermectin/pyrantel) should be administered orally at monthly intervals at the recommended minimum dose level of 6 mcg of ivermectin per kilogram (2.72 mg/kg) and 5 mg of pyrantel (as pamoate salt) per kg (2.27 mg/lb) of body weight. The recommended dosing schedule for prevention of canine heartworm disease and for the treatment and control of ascards and hookworms is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dog Weight</th>
<th>Chewables Per Month</th>
<th>Ivermectin Content</th>
<th>Pyrantel Content</th>
<th>Color Coding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 to 25 lb</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>68 mcg</td>
<td>57 mg</td>
<td>Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 to 50 lb</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>136 mcg</td>
<td>114 mg</td>
<td>Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51 to 100 lb</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>272 mcg</td>
<td>227 mg</td>
<td>Brown</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HEARTGARD Plus is recommended for dogs 6 weeks of age and older. For dogs over 100 lb use the appropriate combination of these chewables.

A. SANDOZ’S COMPANY

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