

SUMMARY

Double-blind study about the preoperative use of Methylprednisolonesuccinat for the treatment of thoracolumbar disc hernitation in chondrodysplastic breeds under clinical conditions.

The use of a single immediate preoperatively given methylprednisolone (MPSS) injection on the results of a thoracolumbar disc hernitation typ 1 (Hansen) was examined by a double-blind study in 41 dogs.

The dogs were treated by the surgeon in charge, who split them into two groups. The MPSS-Group received a 30 mg/kg bodyweight i.v. injection, while the control group received no special medication. This treatment stayed unknown for the examiner until the last examination of the patient.

During the hospitalization the dogs were examined daily. After their dismissal they were checked regularly either until the regain of proprioception or three months after surgery. The owner received exercise instructions to support their dogs' cure.

Comparing the neurological state of the dogs a day after surgery, a significant difference between the MPSS- and the control group couldn't be determined. To compare the two groups in the course of the healing period the cumulative percentage was rated. It shows that there is a tendency for a faster regain of function for the control group but only for dogs with a grade three fall out. The tendency of healing respectively the healing time was taken as a graduation to mark the patients, so that they could be judged despite their differences of fallen out functions. There seemed to be a slight tendency for dogs of the control group to gain the best grade, but the difference couldn't be determined by the χ^2 -test.

Giving a single large dose of MPSS before surgery to the dogs couldn't document an advantage under clinical circumstances.