

UTCVM INTERNAL MEDICINE SERVICE

Does it soothe the burn?

Evaluation of the Effect of Omeprazole on Clinical Signs in Cats with Chronic Kidney Disease

Purpose

Chronic kidney disease (CKD) is prevalent in cats and may cause decreased appetite, nausea, and vomiting. It is common for cats with CKD to receive many (i.e. > 4) daily medications. This daily “pill burden” may cause stress to both the cat and owner and compromise the human-animal bond. Acid suppressants, such as famotidine and omeprazole, are frequently prescribed, but there are no studies in cats with CKD to determine if these therapies are warranted. Moreover, the International Renal Interest Society (IRIS) recommends omeprazole therapy for cats with IRIS stage III and IV CKD but states “further investigations are needed on the use of these drugs to determine whether they are useful for managing gastrointestinal disturbances in cats with CKD”.

Accordingly, the primary goal of the proposed study is to evaluate the effect of omeprazole therapy in cats with CKD.

Eligible cats

- Stable creatinine >2.9 mg/dL and USG <1.035 (IRIS stage III or IV)
- Willing to travel to UTCVM Veterinary Medical Center for weekly exams and blood work

Exclusion criteria

- Cats with concurrent GI or hepatopancreatic disease, or diabetes mellitus will be excluded.
- If a cat is receiving acid suppressant therapy, it will be discontinued for a minimum of 7 days, prior to study inclusion.
- Cats receiving other drugs may be included if they have started the drug >2 weeks prior to study onset and it is given consistently

Procedure

- A physical examination, blood work, and blood pressure will be performed at study entry.
- Both the investigator and client will be blinded to treatment. Cats will receive omeprazole or placebo q24h for 2 weeks. Clients will complete a daily log to acquire data on the cats’ appetite, number of vomiting episodes, and activity. At the completion of each treatment period, a physical exam and serum biochemistry will be performed. After a 14-day rest period during which the daily log will be maintained, cats will receive the 2nd treatment with the same monitoring parameters as the 1st treatment.
- Results of blood work are faxed to cat’s primary veterinarian.



One of our enrolled patients, Sebastian, with his mom, Aurelia

Study pays for:

- Physical exam, CBC, serum biochemistry, urinalysis, urine culture, blood pressure, and total T4 at study entry
- Physical exam and serum biochemistry every 2 weeks for 8 weeks.

No additional monetary compensation or travel stipend provided

Think you have an eligible patient? Contact:

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