## Dottorato di ricerca in Scienze Veterinarie [XXXVI] CICLO - Anno di corso: [3°] Dott. Stefania Golinelli Curriculum: Scienze Cliniche Supervisor: Federico Fracassi



## Addition of cabergoline to trilostane treatment for dogs with pituitary-dependent hypercortisolism

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Objective To evaluate the addition of cabergoline (C) to trilostane (T) in controlling pituitary dependent hypercortisolism (PDH)'s clinical signs and/or blocking growth or even reducing the size of pituitary tumors (PTs).

Materials and Methods Prospective, controlled, multicenter study. 25 dogs with PDH [13 dogs treated with T and C [(TC group, TCg), 12 dogs with only T (T group, Tg) for at least 6 ] were included. Each dog underwent a pituitary CT scan at the beginning (T0) and the end of the study (T180-T365); pituitary tumor height (PTh) and pituitary/brain ratio (PBr) were calculated from each scan. Each dog was monitored at T30 (days), T60, T120, T180, and T365 with a clinical evaluation [standardized questionnaire (Q)], urine specific gravity, cortisol, and endogenous ACTH measurement.

**Results** Q scores were significantly higher (P=0.0101) at T30 versus T365 in the Tg. In the Tg the PTh and the PBr were significantly higher at T365 versus T0 (Figure 1 and 2). In the TCg PTh decreases were significantly greater in comparison to Tg (Figure 3).



**Conclusions** In conclusion, the combination of trilostane and cabergoline treatment does not improve the control of PDH's clinical signs in comparison with trilostane treatment alone. However, cabergoline, potentially, plays a role in controlling the PT growth in PDH dogs.

Future Proposal Future studies will focus on long-term (>1 year) treatment with increased doses of cabergoline.

Period Abroad University of Utrecht (01/10/21-31/03/22): Dopamine and somatostatin receptors and filamin A expression in normal pituitaries and corticotroph adenomas in dogs (1st Poster Abstract Prize of the 32nd ECVIM-CA Congress; 2022).

## References

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