

Subjects

Dogs with behavioural problems due to possible separation anxiety or other anxiety related behaviors' were chosen to participate in the study. The causes of the anxiety included, boarding, treatments, traveling, grooming and environment.

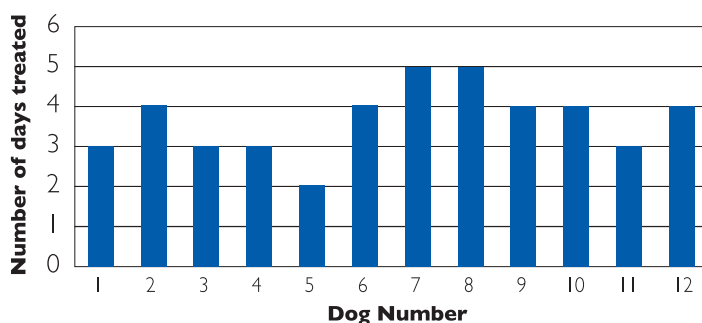
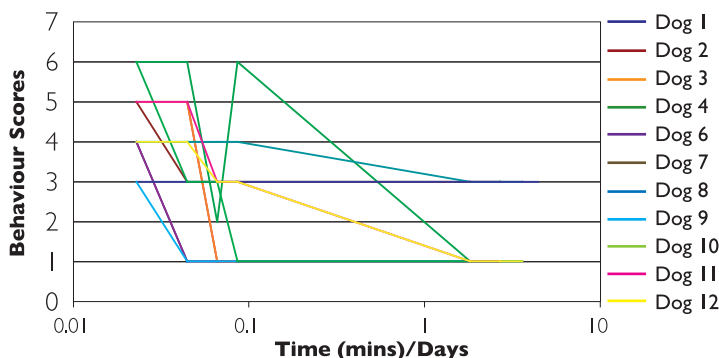
The study took place in registered boarding kennels where access to veterinary treatment if required was available. The participants were observed at least hourly. Owners granted their permission and a history of the dogs normal behaviour was documented. A note was taken of each breed, weight, and suggested reason for this anxious behaviour.

KalmAid was administered in liquid form, once or twice daily to all dogs included. Following administration the behaviour of the dogs was observed at timed intervals, 30mins, 1hr, 1hr30, 2hrs, day 2, day3, day4, day 5. Documentation was carried out using a standardized tick box questionnaire with allowance for additional comments.

Results

Of the 12 dogs given KalmAid most showed a decrease in anxiety related behaviour within a 90 minute timeframe. For the purpose of data analysis a behavioural scoring system was developed as shown.

Behavioural	Score
Calm	1
Docile	2
Less dominance/excitability	3
Anxious	4
Excitability/hyperactivity	5
Aggressive	6
Difficult	7



The study lasted 5 days for each animal and most were given no further doses after day 3, as behaviour was calm. The participant dogs were a range of breeds and age with several different owners. Ten dogs were kennelled whilst two remained home. Diet remained unchanged for all.

Both the Kennel supervisors and owners found the product easy to administer and beneficial in calming the dogs during periods of anxiety. There were no side effects observed.

Discussion

These results demonstrate some of the uses of KalmAid. All of the participants were considered based on changes to their normal behaviour with only one circumstance changing (boarding) thus making the results more reliable. Owner involvement also lends credence to the results since these are valued pets.

The results show that KalmAid is effective within 1-2hrs of the first administration. The reason for this may be related to the breed of dog and reason for requiring treatment. The dogs who were excitable responded quicker than those who were anxious and aggressive. The more excitable dogs were the youngest while the more anxious were the oldest.

Many of the owners and kennel supervisors found the product very effective, however the dogs who received a dose twice daily appeared to have a more effective reduction in anxiety. Kalm-aid was only continued for the 5 days in one pet as the other cases found it unnecessary to continue it for more than 4 days however all would reuse for similar events to aid in calming the pets. Would the participants have settled and remained calm after 4 days without KalmAid this is unclear, however the rapid action would suggest that in the short term KalmAid is effective in calming anxious pets. Longer term use may also be more beneficial in other breeds or different anxiety related problems.

In conclusion KalmAid is effective in calming anxious dogs in a boarding kennel environment.

References:

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