

WELL LIFE COMPOUNDING PHARMACY

CANINE COMPULSIVE DISORDERS

The results of this study demonstrate the efficacy of fluoxetine in the treatment of ALD (acral lick dermatitis) and lend further support to ALD as an animal model of OCD – “Fluoxetine treatment of acral lick dermatitis in dogs: a placebo-controlled randomized double blind trial” (Depress Anxiety. 1998;8(1):21-3).

ABSTRACT: “The aim of the study was to assess the efficacy and tolerability of fluoxetine treatment of acral lick dermatitis (ALD) in dogs and to investigate ALD as an animal model of obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD). Sixty-three dogs with ALD were treated with fluoxetine 20 mg daily, or a placebo for 6 weeks. In the fluoxetine group, owners rated both appearance of the lesion ($t = 10.2$, $df = 29$, $P < 0.0001$) and licking behavior ($t=10.2$, $df=29$, $P < 0.0001$) as significantly improved by the end of the trial. Veterinarian-rated pre- and post-treatment photographs showed statistically significant improvement in the fluoxetine group (mean = 2.55). There were no significant changes in the placebo group as rated by owners and veterinarians. These results demonstrate the efficacy of fluoxetine in the treatment of ALD and lend further support to ALD as an animal model of OCD.” PMID: 9750975

The following clinical study demonstrated results suggesting that fluoxetine may be efficacious in the treatment of compulsive disorders in dogs – “Randomized, controlled clinical trial of the efficacy of fluoxetine for treatment of compulsive disorders in dogs” (J Am Vet Med Assoc. 2009 Sep 15;235(6):705-9).

OBJECTIVE: To evaluate efficacy of fluoxetine hydrochloride for treatment of compulsive disorders in dogs.

DESIGN: Randomized, controlled clinical trial.

ANIMALS: 63 dogs with compulsive disorders.

PROCEDURES: The diagnosis was confirmed on the basis of analysis of videotapes of the dog’s behavior by 3 veterinary behaviorists, results of physical examination and clinicopathologic testing, and, when necessary, telephone interviews with owners. Dogs were randomly assigned to treatment with fluoxetine (1 to 2 mg/kg [0.45 to 0.9 mg/lb], PO, q24h) or a placebo. Owners did not receive any advice regarding behavioral or environmental modifications. Severity of episodes were measured through telephone interviews every 2 weeks and on the basis of a daily diary recorded by each owner.

RESULTS: 42 days after the initiation of treatment, the proportion of dogs with a decrease in severity of the compulsive disorder, as reported by the owners, was significantly higher for dogs treated with fluoxetine than for control dogs, and dogs treated with fluoxetine were significantly more likely (odds ratio, 8.7) to have a decrease in severity of the compulsive disorder. However, mean number and duration of compulsive episodes, as determined from daily diary entries, did not differ significantly between groups. The most common adverse effects were decreased appetite and mild lethargy.

CONCLUSIONS AND CLINICAL RELEVANCE: Results suggested that fluoxetine may be efficacious in the treatment of compulsive disorders in dogs, although results were equivocal. The present study did not examine whether fluoxetine was more efficacious than or synergistic with behavioral and environment modifications. PMID: 19751167

Example of how you might prescribe:

Fluoxetine 10mg/ml Flavored Oral Suspension
60 ml
As directed