ABSTRACTS

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CLINICAL USE OF DESLORELIN IN COMPANION ANIMALS

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Abstract - A recent development in the field of control of reproduction in carnivores is the use of agonists of GnRH dissolved in a lipid base. Several GnRH agonists are available as human compounds, and a few of them such as deslorelin or nafarelin are already available on (or being considered as candidate for) the veterinary market. We have used deslorelin (Suprelorin™, Peptech, Australia) for various indications in the dog and cat, including treatment of benign prostatic hyperplasia in the dog, treatment of anal gland adenoma in the male dog, control of reproduction in both species, control of roaming and elimination of urine odour in male cats, treatment of post-spaying urinary incontinence in the bitch and control of mammary tumor metastatic disease in the bitch, and a study on the use of deslorelin for delaying puberty in male and female cats is currently ongoing. Because of variability of the number of animals in each category (from 2-10) as well as lack of control groups when dealing with clinical cases of client owned animals, no final conclusion based on statistical evidence can be made. The following conclusions are therefore subjective assessments based on personal experience spanning over 4 years on the clinical efficacy of both the 6- and 12-month deslorelin implants.

- Deslorelin is effective in treating benign prostatic hypertrophy (BPH) in dogs. Clinical signs disappear quickly and clinical effects of the 6-month implant are often longer than 6 months.
- Control of reproduction and aggressiveness in male dogs and cats can be achieved, but it remains to be established how long it takes for a male to become sterile. Furthermore, the animal’s temperament cannot be changed by the drug and aggressiveness towards other animals may remain unaltered.
- Control or roaming and urine odour in cats can be achieved
- Urinary incontinence in spayed bitches will benefit from the use of deslorelin in terms of full recovery or improvement in the response to oral treatments
- Control of reproduction in the bitch and queen can be effectively achieved. However, while queens will enter anestrus soon after treatment, bitches will enter a normal season within a few days from administrations of deslorelin if this is done in anestrus. Treating the bitch in diestrus will eliminate the problem of estrus induction, but some bitches may develop pyometra depending on their pre-treatment endometrial conditions.