## 28. Equine Atypical Myopathy: Prevention is still the key

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Equine atypical myopathy (AM) is an environmental intoxication due to the ingestion of hypoglycin A found in seeds and seedlings of *Acer Pseudoplatanus* in Europe. Risk and protective factors were defined previously. Although several studies about this pathology are carried out, no specific treatment is known yet. The mortality rate remains high and, consequently, prevention is still the key to preserve horses from this severe intoxication. A systematic literature review was performed and epidemiological data was collected via standardized questionnaires. A total of 127 documents and 2371 cases were included in this study. Analysis of the data indicates that the risk can be decreased through different measures. First, contact with toxic plant material should be avoid (removal of seeds, prohibition of grazing in contaminated areas, parcels creation, no manure and/or harrowing). Secondly, by using or creating low risk pastures which are lush pastures without watercourses and/or freestanding water and without *Acer Pseudoplatanus* in the vicinity. Thirdly, it is advised to stable horses during risky periods or when the weather is inclement and/or to limit the grazing time (i.e. less than six hours a day). Fourthly, by revising feeding practice: it is advised to provide supplementary feeds (with riboflavin), a salt block, water from distribution network or stored in a tank, free-toxin hay or silage in a net in order to avoid contact with seeds or seedlings. These preventive measures should be followed for a period of 3 months starting in October to prevent "autumnal cases" and in March for "spring cases".

## 29. Does obesity influence blood pressure parameters in client-owned dogs? Preliminary results

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**Introduction.** Obesity in dogs is a growing nutritional disease with several presumed adverse health effects such as systemic hypertension. The aim of this study was to compare blood pressure (BP) in healthy lean (LD) and obese (OD) adult dogs. **Materials and methods.** Fifteen lean (BCS 5/9) and 28 obese (BCS ≥ 7/9) client-owned Labradors and Golden Retrievers were recruited and declared healthy. BP was measured by oscillometry (ACVIM guidelines). Data were analyzed with Kruskal-Wallis and Mann Withney *U* tests. Results are expressed as mean (±SD) or median (Q1–Q3). **Results.** Dogs were: 23 females (17 neut.) and 20 males (14 neut.).

Table 1. Body weight and BCS in LD and OD

| | LD | OD |
|---|---|---|
| Body weight (kg) | 30.2 ± 4.5 | 40.3 ± 7.0 |
| BCS ( /9) | 5 | 7.8 ± 0.6 |

No significant difference was found for age (p=0.13) and activity (p=0.09, data not shown)

Table 2. BP parameters (mmHg) in LD and OD

| | Lean | Obese | p-value |
|---|---|---|---|
| Heart rate (bpm) | 98 (86-110) | 112 (105-135) | 0.017 |
| SYS | 142 (126-182) | 161 (141-172) | 0.49 |
| DIA | 70 (65-120) | 89 (72-103) | 0.17 |
| MAP | 96 (89-138) | 115 (96-127) | 0.29 |

**Discussion.** No correlation was found between obesity and blood pressure, like in previous studies, where it has been more related to age, concurrent diseases, exercise, size, breed, and temperament of the dog. **Conclusion.** This study failed to show differences in blood pressure parameters between LD and OD of similar breeds.