AUTOLOGOUS BLOOD TRANSFUSION, AN ALTERNATIVE THERAPEUTIC APPROACH IN THE MANAGEMENT OF HEMOTHORAX AND HEMOPERITONEUM IN DOGS

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ABSTRACT

Hypovolemic hemorrhagic shock is the most common type of shock encountered in veterinary traumatology in dogs. In this context, autologous blood transfusion might become a lifesaving approach, eliminating both septic and autoimmune hemolytic reactions. In this study we used autotransfusion in the therapy of three canine patients, two of them presenting with hemoperitoneum due to the rupture of spleen hemangiosarcomas and the third presenting with hemothorax after rodenticide poisoning. The amount of blood used in autotransfusion varied from 12% to 30% of the total blood volume. The blood was obtained by either emergency thoracocentesis or abdominocentesis, or during an emergency exploratory laparatomy with splenectomy. After the procedure all patients showed an improvement of the measured noninvasive global hemodynamic parameters. The results of this study are encouraging and allow us to suggest the implementation of autotransfusion in the emergency therapy of hemothorax and hemoperitoneum in dogs.

KEYWORDS

Autotransfusion, hemothorax, hemoperitoneum, dog

REFERENCES