

Evaluation of the effects of pregabalin for the management of hospitalized feral cats

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Feral cats hospitalization may be challenging. The study aims to evaluate the behavioral, sedative, and analgesic effects of pregabalin in hospitalized feral cats. Pregabalin (10 mg kg⁻¹) was administered orally twice daily, for two days. Clinical parameters, Demeanor Scoring System (DSS) (Zeiler et al. 2014), Feline Grimace Scale (FGS) (Evangelista et al. 2019), and Global Sedation Score (GSS) (Carvalho et al. 2019) were assessed at the admission (Tpre), at 4, 6, 12, 24, 30, 36, 48 and 60 hours after the first administration. Data were calculated as mean \pm standard deviation and compared using one-way ANOVA ($p < .05$). Twenty cats (9 Female; 11 Male) were included with a mean body weight and BCS of 3.73 ± 0.97 and $5/9 \pm 0.94$, respectively. Mean and standard deviation (% variation) of the scores recorded for the study are reported in Table. (* $p < .05$ compared to Tpre).

	Tpre	T4	T6	T12	T24	T30	T36	T48	T60
GSS	-1.05 \pm 0.68	0.42 \pm 0.83* (25.47%)	0.8 \pm 0.61* (30.87%)	0.55 \pm 0.68* (28.74%)	0.3 \pm 0.73* (26.36%)	0.5 \pm 1* (25.87%)	-0.05 \pm 0.88* (19.48%)	0 \pm 0.88* (19.47%)	-0.26 \pm 0.93* (16.69%)
FGS	3.25 \pm 1.33	2.5 \pm 1.3* (-7.37%)	2.4 \pm 1.53* (-8.5%)	1.95 \pm 0.75* (-13%)	1.7 \pm 1.26* (-15.5%)	1.8 \pm 1.39* (-17.5%)	1.4 \pm 1.04* (-18.5%)	1.52 \pm 1.26* (-16.32%)	1.42 \pm 0.96* (-19.47%)
DSS	15.85 \pm 2.68	11.42 \pm 4.00* (18.31%)	10.4 \pm 3.11* (21.8%)	9.55 \pm 2.96* (24.8%)	8.4 \pm 4.01* (26.36%)	7.5 \pm 3.79* (29.8%)	7.25 \pm 3.32* (32.6%)	9.10 \pm 4.06* (27.37%)	9.78 \pm 4.09* (24.42%)

All scores improved with pregabalin, while physiological parameters remained similar. The study reveals the beneficial effects of pregabalin in hospitalized cats.

References

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