



CLINICAL EFFICACY AND ADVERSE EFFECTS OF CISAPRIDE IN TREATING GASTROINTESTINAL MOTILITY DISORDERS

Ionuț Răzvan DOBRE¹, Adriana-Daniela ALISTAR (VLĂGIOIU)¹, Iuliana IONAȘCU¹
¹University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine

Abstract

Cisapride is an efficient prokinetic agent that plays a significant role in veterinary medicine, treating gastrointestinal (GI) motility disorders in various species. Its efficacy is especially significant for conditions like constipation, megacolon.

The aim of this study is to highlight the clinical applications of Cisapride as a resultful and reliable therapeutic option. Three cases from our Veterinary Teaching Hospital involving cats suffering from constipation achieved successful therapeutic outcomes. We conducted an online survey among veterinary professionals to gather other insights into the clinical utilization. The survey revealed that an overwhelming 81.8% of respondents do not incorporate Cisapride into their routine practices.

Introduction

- Cisapride, the oral gastrointestinal (GI) prokinetic agent utilized in various species to address conditions such as GI stasis, reflux esophagitis, and constipation or megacolon in cats, it is no longer commercially available. It must be obtained through a compounding pharmacy.
- In another study conducted in healthy cats after oral administration, adverse effects were not observed.

Material and method

- This study combined a practitioner survey, clinical case analysis, and diagnostic imaging to evaluate Cisapride use in veterinary medicine.
- The survey assessed how frequently Cisapride is used, its clinical outcomes, and reported side effects.



Figure 1. Cisapride syrup prepared in our compounding pharmacy and the mixing system

- Additionally, three feline cases with gastrointestinal motility disorders were treated with Cisapride syrup or transdermal Cisapride and monitored for response. Radiographs were used to support diagnosis and track treatment progress.
- The syrup containing Cisapride is prepared in the compounding pharmacy of our Veterinary Teaching Hospital.
- A written informed consent was obtained from the owner of Case #2 to publish this paper, including radiological images and photographs of the cat.

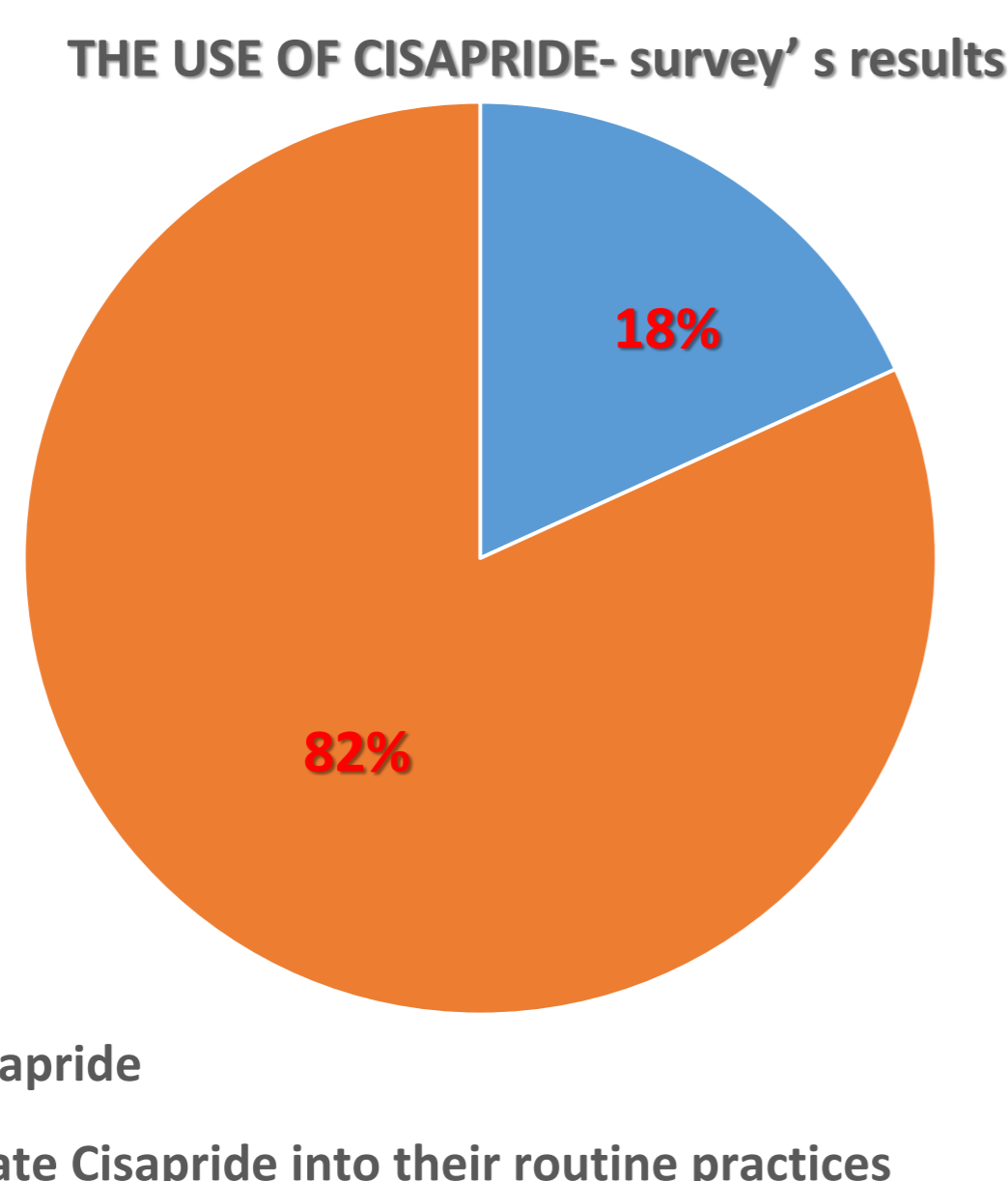


Figure 2. The results of the survey concerning the use of Cisapride

Results and discussions

A survey of veterinary professionals found that 81.8% do not routinely use Cisapride, mainly due to limited availability and lack of familiarity. Only 18.2% reported current use, primarily for treating feline megacolon.

Three cases from our Veterinary Teaching Hospital presented with chronic and recurrent constipation:

- #1:** An 8-year-old male cat with slow bowl movement, significant colonic gas distension via radiography and reduced appetite was treated with oral Cisapride syrup 1mg/ml (2.5 ml twice daily) for two weeks, the cat showed clinical improvement despite minimal radiographic changes. Improvement.
- #2:** A 10-year-old unneutered male British Longhair where clinical exam revealed abdominal pain and hard faecal masses. X-rays confirmed the diagnosis, and a high enema was performed under close monitoring to relieve faecal impaction and discomfort. Administered Cisapride syrup same dose. Resolved.
- #3:** An 8-month-old neutered male cat with chronic constipation and aversion to oral medication was treated at home with transdermal Cisapride 1mg/0.1ml, applied to the inner ear, alongside Lactulose and a high-fiber diet, two weeks treatment, with follow-up pending. The cat is currently under treatment which is well tolerated.

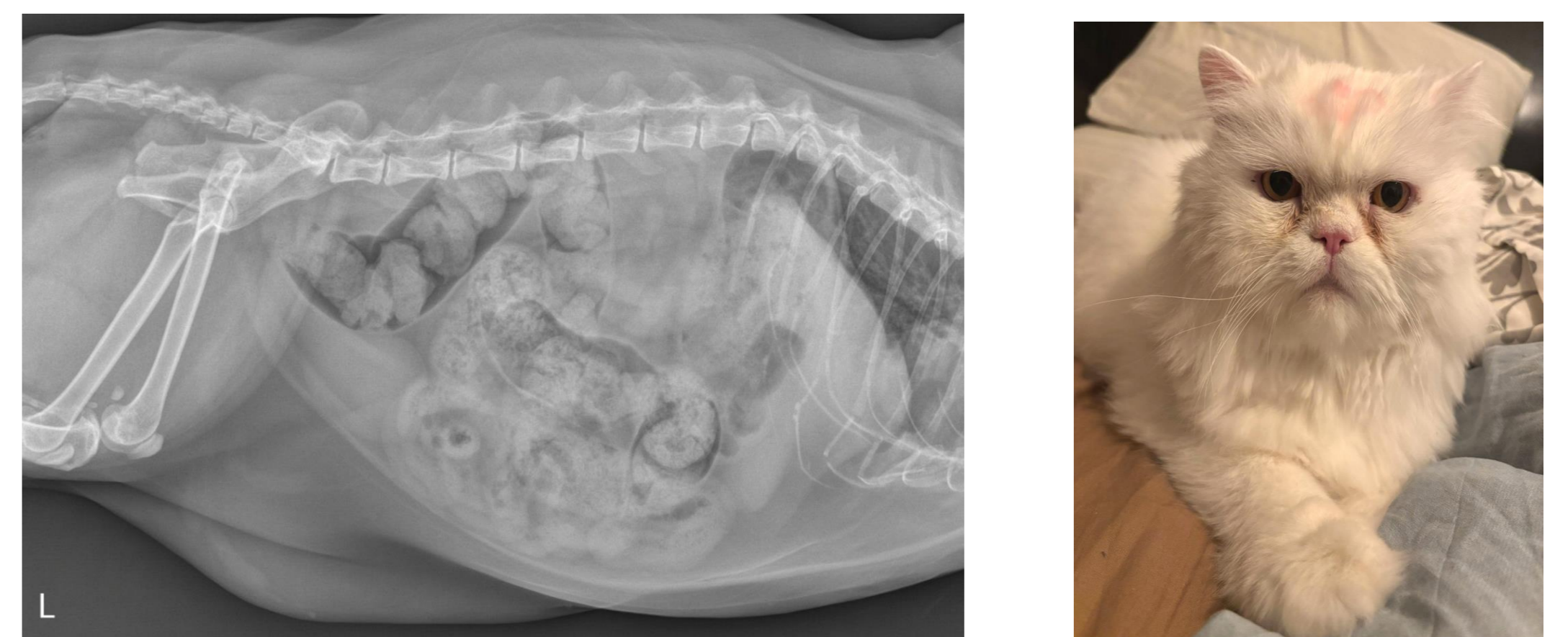


Figure 3. In case #2, the first x-ray reveals coprostasis, and the owner provided a photograph of the cat

Conclusions

- Cisapride has shown clinical effectiveness in managing gastrointestinal motility disorders such as constipation.
- Both oral and transdermal formulations of Cisapride are well-tolerated and therapeutically effective.
- Despite its potential, Cisapride is underutilized in clinical practice, with 81.8% of veterinary professionals not use it routinely, indicating a gap between its clinical value and practitioner awareness.
- Enhancing awareness and education among veterinary professionals about Cisapride's safety and clinical applications could improve the management of gastrointestinal motility issues in cats.
- No adverse effects of Cisapride were observed in the cases studied.