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Sonographic determination of liver size and correlations with body surface area in hepatitis-afflicted dogs

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In Pakistan, sonographic findings regarding liver problems in pets have not yet been reported. This study characterized the various stages of liver disease for precise prognosis and treatment prospects in dogs in Lahore city. Liver size was sonographically ascertained and correlated with laboratory findings in 21 client-owned dogs divided into three groups (A, B, C), n=7. Group A comprised of healthy dogs which served as control. Group B comprised of dogs scanned for acute hepatitis, while Group C comprised of dogs suffering from chronic hepatitis. Based on presenting clinical findings, liver was scanned in B-mode using 5.0 MHz transducer. Hematology and biochemistry profile were assessed and body surface area calculated. Hypoproteinemia and bleeding diathesis supervened in hepatitis-afflicted dogs (Groups B and C), manifested by a significant decrease in albumin and platelet counts ($P<0.00$), and prolonged prothrombin time (PT) and APTT ($P<0.00$). ALT showed a significant increase ($P<0.028$) while increase in bilirubin was highly significant ($P<0.00$) for both Groups B and C. Correlation analysis between sonographically determined liver size and body surface area (BSA) revealed a strong correlation (0.9) between liver size and BSA in the acute hepatitis group, moderate (0.6) correlation in the Control Group; while, the Chronic Hepatitis Group C depicted a negative correlation (-0.5). Conclusively, sonographic liver size correlated well with BSA and with laboratory findings and the clinical picture. Conclusively, sonographic findings correlate well with clinical picture in acute and chronic hepatitis in dogs.

Biography

Shehla Gul Bokhari is a PhD in Veterinary Small Animal Surgery. She additionally has expertise in small animal ultrasonography. She is the first one to launch equine tendon sonography in Pakistan. She holds 13 years of teaching, clinical and research experience. Currently, she works as Assistant Professor, at the Pet Hospital of University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Lahore, Pakistan.

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