




Twice-daily dosing of RDZ no longer recommended for treatment of intestinal *Tritrichomonas foetus* infection

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Dear Editor,

We would like to thank Xenoulis et al¹ for their recent retrospective study in which information is provided on the outcome of cats that were treated with ronidazole for *Tritrichomonas foetus* infection.

We agree with the authors' recommendation of a treatment regimen for infections caused by *T foetus* of 30 mg/kg ronidazole (RDZ) q24h for 14 days.¹ However, they reference a previous study of ours that recommended that cats that relapse should be treated with 30–50 mg/kg RDZ PO q12h.^{1,2} Based on our recent feline RDZ pharmacokinetic (PK) studies, we no longer recommend twice-daily dosing of RDZ.³ In our PK study, we determined that the half-life of RDZ is long (10.5 h), and that 48 h after a single dose of 30 mg/kg immediate-release RDZ capsules orally there was still drug remaining in the cats' plasma.³ Simulations based on our PK studies showed that twice-daily administration of 30 mg/kg RDZ PO would lead to drug accumulation.³ Neurotoxicity, including tremors, ataxia and agitation, is a reported and potentially dangerous side effect of RDZ in cats.^{4,5} As such, we no longer advocate twice-daily RDZ at this dose. However, it should also be noted that our PK studies did not assess the efficacy of our revised recommendations of once-daily 30 mg/kg RDZ administration for *T foetus*-infected cats. Such work remains to be done. We wanted to draw readers' attention to these recent PK studies, so that cats are not inadvertently overdosed and risk neurologic sequelae based on outdated recommendations.

References

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Dana N LeVine

Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences,
 Iowa State University, Ames, IA, USA
 Email: dnlevine@iastate.edu

Jody L Gookin

Department of Clinical Sciences,
 North Carolina State University, Raleigh,
 NC, USA

Mark G Papich

Department of Molecular Biomedical Sciences,
 North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC, USA

Gigi S Davidson

Department of Clinical Pharmacy Services,
 North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC, USA