



Retrospective investigation of 100 owned cats who visit the hospital with the mouth pain

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Background& Aims

We, general practitioners, frequently see the cats who have mouth pain and anorexia in Japan. The chief complaint of their owners are usually, "He eats unnaturally." or "It seems that he wants to eat but cannot." Unfortunately, it is common that their oral environment is already severe at the first visit.

Previous studies have not investigate the cause of worsening of oral environment with large numbers of cases, although they expect that the cause varies, such as gingivitis, CKD(i.e. chronic kidney disease) and so on.

In this study, we investigated the pet cats with mouth pain in Japan physically and clinicopathologically.

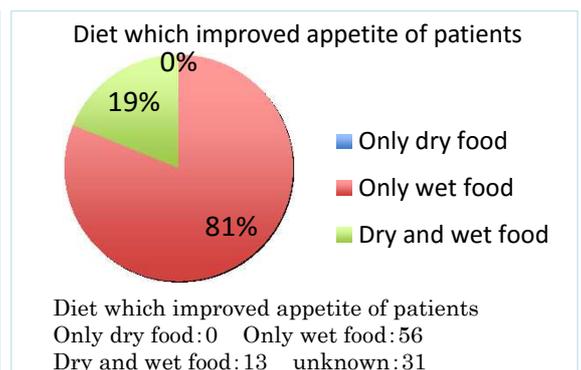
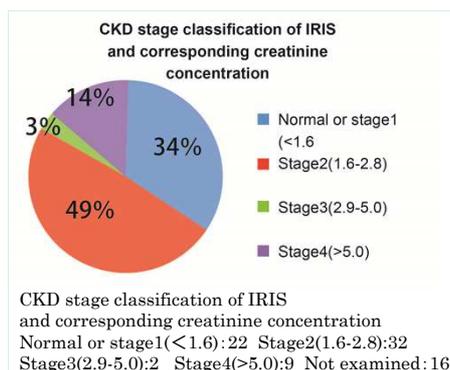
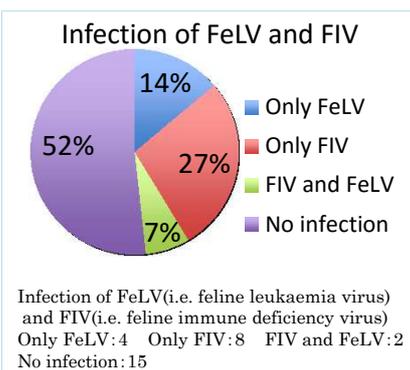
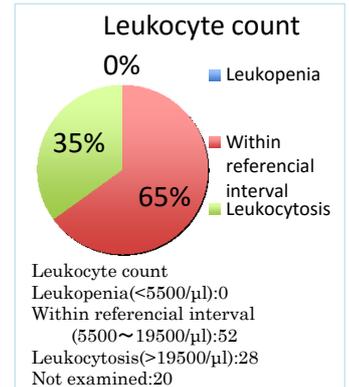
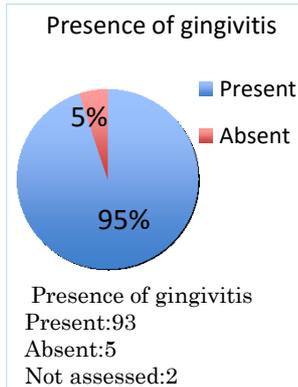
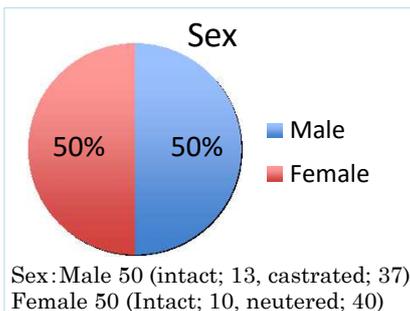
Methods

We selected 100 cats at the author's hospital with the chief complaint of pain in the mouth and anorexia in the previous four years. We investigated their medical records, presence of gingivitis, history of feral life and results of blood test.

To show which diet improved appetite, we assorted the patients into three groups as follows; improved only with dry food, only with wet food and both of dry and wet food.

Results

Age: One to twenty-one years old
(mean: twelve years and a month old)



Conclusions

No sex difference was detected in the patients of this symptom. As the average age was twelve years and a month, the patients' age was relatively high.

95% of cases had stomatitis in this study. It is well known that refractory chronic gingivostomatitis sometimes affects cats. The cause of this disease is generally thought to be viral infection, such as feline viral rhinotracheitis, feline calicivirus infection, FeLV infection and FIV infection. To support that, 78% of the cases used to be stray cats, and 20% were infected by FeLV and 34% by FIV in this study. Although neither FeLV nor FIV infection directly cause stomatitis, they can be related to obstinacy and deterioration of the symptom by worsening immunity of patients. Besides, it is known that uraemia increases ammonia level in saliva and results in stomatitis. In this study, 79% of cases showed CKD in stage2 or worse. According to this result, blood test to the patients with mouth pain can help treating and estimating prognosis.

Approximately 80% of the anorexic cats with mouth pain improved their appetite by feeding wet food. On the other hand, no patients improved by feeding dry food. So, It is more recommended to feed wet food to the cats with mouth pain than feeding dry food.