



27 November 2020

SYSTEMATIC REVIEW OF THE ANAESTHETIC PROTOCOL IN BRACHYCEPHALIC DOGS

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Abstract: *The popularity of brachycephalic breeds has increased considerably over the past few years in Romania and Europe and as such the number of brachycephalic patients who require surgical treatment and general anaesthesia has increased as well. These breeds are predisposed to several pathologies which can have a significant negative impact on the anaesthetic management and on the surgical outcome. The incidence of intra and post-operative complications in the brachycephalic patient can be reduced when the other frequently encountered pathologies are considered and treated accordingly. Occasionally the severity of these pathologies can lead to cancellation of the surgical procedure and the clinician should identify the brachiocephalic patients which require treatment or further investigations before undergoing general anaesthesia. At the same time, the clinician should be prepared to closely monitor the brachycephalic patient from the moment of admission in the practice until the discharge.*

• Introduction

The number of brachycephalic dogs that require general anaesthesia and surgical treatment has increased over the past few years. Brachycephalic patients are prone to many pathologies that can have a significant impact on the anaesthetic management and the frequency of the post-operative complications.

• Material and method

The present article revises the available literature on anaesthesia of the brachycephalic dogs, focusing on the pre-existing conditions, anaesthetic protocols and the most common post-operative complications encountered in these breeds.

• Results and discussions

Brachycephalic patients require special attention while undergoing general anaesthesia. The incidence of intra and post-operative complications can be reduced when the underlying pathologies are identified and treated appropriately.

• Conclusions

General anaesthesia can be challenging in brachycephalic dogs. Efforts should be made to reduce the frequency of post-operative complications in these breeds by better management of associated diseases and closer monitoring of the patient in the pre- and post-operative period.