Median Sternotomy versus Intercostal Thoracotomy for Lung Lobectomy: A Comparison of Short-Term Outcome in 134 Dogs.

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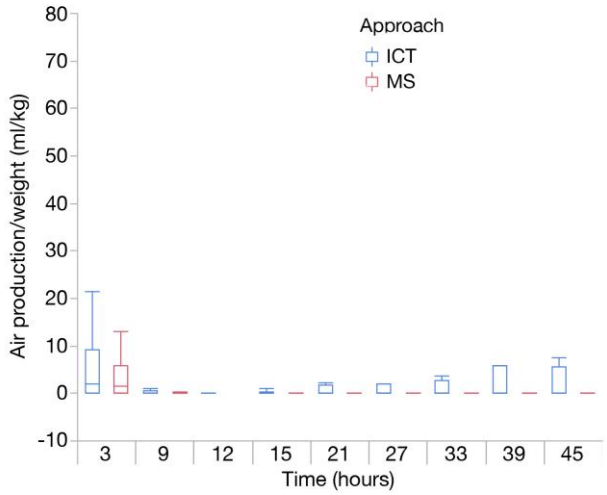
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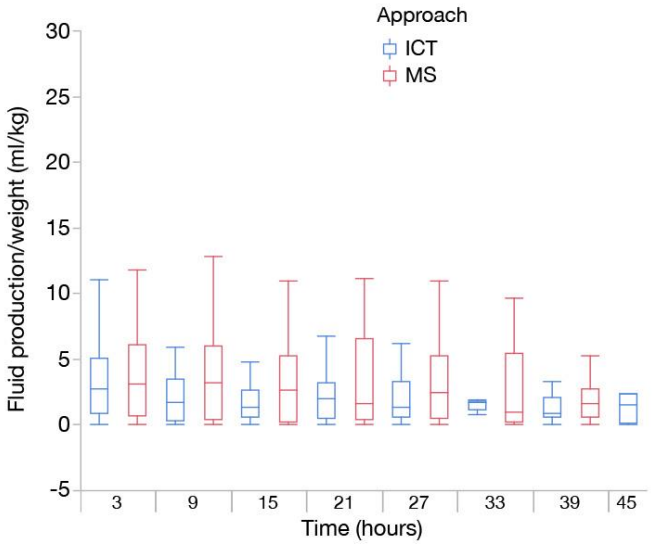
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Abstract

Short-term outcome factors such as pain, oxygenation and complications between dogs undergoing median sternotomy (MS) or intercostal thoracotomy (ICT) for lung lobectomy were compared retrospectively. Dogs with pleural effusion, pneumonia, migrating foreign body, lung abscess, spontaneous pneumothorax or lung lobe torsion were excluded. Short-term outcome factors up to the time of death, euthanasia or discharge from the hospital, were recorded and compared. One hundred and thirty four dogs met the inclusion criteria. Forty-four (33%) dogs underwent MS and 90 dogs (67%) underwent ICT. Fluid production from the chest tube (P = 0.0061), alveolar arterial pressure gradient (P = 0.0001) and complications requiring intervention (P = 0.0245) were significantly greater in the MS group than the ICT group. All other short-term outcome factors were not significantly different. Five dogs from the MS group and 4 from the ICT group were euthanized in the post-operative period (P = 0.0925). In a surgical procedure that does not preclude either approach, ICT may be more desirable than MS where post-operative pain, oxygenation and complications are concerned. However, as all other short-term outcome factors were not significantly different between groups, we can state that both MS and ICT are well tolerated by dogs.

Figures:





References:

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Biography:

Seth Bleakley grew up in Northern Ireland and earned his veterinary degree from University College Dublin, Ireland, graduating in 2011. In 2012, he completed a small animal rotating internship at VCA Veterinary Referral Associates in Maryland. From 2012-2016 he completed a small animal surgical residency and Masters at Colorado State University before going into private small animal surgical practice at VCA Sacramento Veterinary Referral Center in California. He became a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons in 2017. His most recent published research has been on thoracoscopic lung lobectomy, tibial tuberosity advancement and thoracotomy.

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