Scheduling parturition is of great interest for both owners and veterinarians. Earlier studies on induction of parturition were all carried out in beagle bitches. Our aim was to determine whether parturition induction remained effective in other breeds.

In total, 13 pluriparous pregnant bitches were grouped into three categories: small (n=4), large (n=5) and giant breeds (n=4). The ovulation day was determined using a quantitative progesterone assay. Within each group, some bitches were randomly assigned to have parturition medically induced, while the others remained untreated. Parturition was induced 59 days after the estimated ovulation day using aglepristone 15 mg/kg SC (Alizine®), followed 24 hours later by oxytocin every two hours 0.15 UI/kg SC (Ocytocine S®).

Mean duration of parturition was 9.6±5.4 hours in the treated group vs 8.0 hours in the control group. The mean duration of induced parturition was shorter in small bitches (3.8 hours) than in large (11.2 hours) or giant (14.0 hours) bitches. In the induced group, the mean interval between two successive foetal expulsions was 115.6±82.8 minutes vs 68.8±24.5 minutes in the control group. One pup was stillborn in the induced group vs two in the control group. After 48 hours, 6.1±3.4 pups were alive in the induced group (vs 7±2.4 in the control group). The protocol combining aglepristone + oxytocin successfully induces parturition in various sized bitches.

References

Canine intervertebral disc degeneration is a common problem in both humans and dogs. Diagnosis of intervertebral disc disease is based on clinical signs and diagnostic imaging. Histology is valuable in determining the degeneration of intervertebral discs at cellular level. Medical reports, radiography, MRI and histology of herniated discs from 18 dogs were used to determine the severity of disc degeneration with each one of these methods and comparing them to each other.

The aim of this retrospective case series was to get a better understanding of the differences between type 1 and 2 disc herniation and the value of clinical signs, histology, radiography and MRI in diagnosing canine intervertebral disc disease. Although the number of patients in this study was limited, some valuable conclusions could be drawn. Neurological signs do not always correspond to the degenerative changes seen on radiography, MRI and histology. Dogs with type 1 disc herniation appear to have more severe clinical signs than dogs with type 2 disc herniation. Degenerative signs on both radiographic and MR imaging correlate to some degree with the changes seen on histology. Unfortunately, these correlations hold a low sensitivity and specificity, which leads us to advise using a combination of diagnostic methods to reach an accurate diagnosis.

Benefits of bilateral dog cataract surgery in a single surgical setting: twenty-nine cases
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Introduction
In dogs cataract surgery is a routine procedure. In the case of bilateral cataract, surgery can be performed in two independent sessions or in one single session. Aim of this study was to evaluate single session surgery in bilateral cataract.

Materiel and Methods
In total twenty-nine cases were included. The cataract was diabetic in thirteen cases, senile in six cases and assumed inherited in ten cases. Systematic ophthalmologic evaluation includes electroretinography and vitreoretinal echography. Lens-induced uveitis was diagnosed in thirty-three eyes and medically stabilised
Companion Animals: Posters

before surgery. The cataract was treated bilaterally in a single surgical setting, by phacoemulsification with implantation of prosthetic intraocular lens. The animals are examined one, four and eight weeks after surgery.

Results
Two months after surgery, visual function was restored in all dogs. Nine eyes developed post-operative complications (acute uveitis, acute glaucoma) which were stabilised by medical treatment. Neither retinal detachment nor infectious endophthalmitis was detected.

Discussion
Lens-induced uveitis is frequently observed in dog with cataract. When bilateral surgery is performed in two sessions, the lens-induced uveitis present in the non-operated eye may trigger an unwanted immune reaction in the recently operated one. Consequently, the results of bilateral cataract surgery are improved when both eyes are operated in a single session.

References

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Introduction
Ocular thelaziosis with Thelazia callipaeda is a parasitic infection transmitted by the drosophilid midge Phortica variegata and is expanding in Europe. Already diagnosed in Italy, Switzerland and Germany, autochthonous cases of ocular thelaziosis were recently reported in France.1, 2

Materiel and Methods
This study includes five dogs and a cat living in the south-west of France. Four dogs were referred for more or less severe mono- or bilateral ocular irritation, with blepharospasm, conjunctivitis and mucopurulent discharge. The worms (from one to twelve per eye) were found during examination of the conjunctival sac and identified as Thelazia callipaeda.

Results
The treatment consisted of retrieving the worms with forceps under local anaesthetic. One dog was then administered two injections of ivermectin with one month interval, two others were treated with milbemycin oxime by oral route twice in one month,1 two dogs and the cat received selamectin (spot on) twice in one month. No recurrence was observed.

Discussions
New cases of ocular thelaziosis are appearing in France in the Aquitaine region, in addition to those reported recently. The vector Phortica variegata is therefore likely to be present in this region.

References

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Introduction
Trichomonas foetus has been identified as a cause of large-bowel diarrhoea in domestic cats. In recent years, infection with T. foetus was reported in cats in the USA, United Kingdom, and Germany. Feline trichomonosis has not been studied in France since Brumpt’s observations in 1925.

Case report
30 cats from a cattery in Paris developed persistent