Separation anxiety in pets: what is the most effective treatment?

Search Strategy:
-----------------------------------------------
1 (pet or pets or "small animal*" or "companion animal")
2 (cat or cats or feline or dog or dogs or canine or kitten* or puppy or puppies)
3 (separat*)
4 "separation anxiety syndrome"
5 (stress* or anxiety or anxious)
6 ((1 or 2) and 3 and 5) or 4 (358)
--------------------------------------------------------

Accession Number
20143370557
Author
Title
A descriptive study of 215 dogs diagnosed with separation anxiety.
Source
Applied Animal Behaviour Science; 2014. 159:82-89. 25 ref.
Publisher
Elsevier
Location of Publisher
Amsterdam
Country of Publication
Netherlands
Abstract
Clinical records of dogs visiting a behavioral clinic were used to study the behavior and background of dogs with separation anxiety (SA). 215 dogs (with SA) were included in the study, representing 22.6% of the patients seen during the 40 months the study covered (n=952). Male dogs comprised 60% (n=129) of the patients, and females 40% (n=86). Neutered dogs were more common in the clinical material compared to reference populations. More male dogs diagnosed with SA were neutered compared to female dogs with SA (28% n=37 vs. 8% n=7). Forty dogs (18.5%) were diagnosed with SA only, while 179 (82.8%) of the patients had other behavioral problems in addition to SA. The most common co-morbid diagnosis was noise sensitivities (43.7% n=94). Owners of the dogs presented for clinical evaluation most commonly reported vocalization, destruction and excessive motor activity (as signs of SA). Some breeds seem to have a higher incidence of separation anxiety than other breeds. The majority of the owners were families consisting of two adults or adults with children and most of the owners obtained their dog from a breeder as a puppy. Twenty-eight (14%) of the owners were women living alone and three (1.5%) being a man living alone.
Publication Type
Journal article.

Accession Number
20143370318
Author
King, C.; Buffington, L.; Smith, T. J.; Grandin, T.
Title
The effect of a pressure wrap (ThunderShirtReg.) on heart rate and behavior in canines diagnosed with anxiety disorder.

Source

Publisher
Elsevier

Abstract
The effect of moderate-to-deep pressure on soft tissue has been studied in both humans and nonhuman animals with positive results shown in reducing anxiety and promoting relaxation. Canine anxiety disorders are often treated with medications and behavior modification programming. Pressure wraps are sometimes used to treat canine anxiety, but the effects of this investigation have not been rigorously investigated. The aims of this study were to investigate the use of a pressure wrap (ThunderShirtReg.; ThunderWorks, Durham, NC) on heart rate and behavior in dogs diagnosed with an anxiety disorder. Subjects were 90 dogs (39 males and 51 females) that were diagnosed with Separation Anxiety or Generalized Anxiety Disorder. Dogs were randomly assigned to 1 of the 3 groups, namely Experimental Group 1 (dogs wore the ThunderShirtReg. per manufacturer's recommendations), Experimental Group 2 (dogs wore the ThunderShirtReg. loosely without pressure), and Control Group (dogs had no specific treatment). Average and maximum heart rates were measured at baseline and after 15 minutes alone in the kennel. Dogs were video-recorded and analysis completed for 12 behaviors, namely pacing, panting, yawning, tongue-flicking, drooling, elimination, barking, stress whining, howling, licking, door orientation, and calmness. The results were as follows: Dogs in Experimental Group 1 showed significantly less increase from baseline in average heart rate than the Control Group dogs (P<0.001) and dogs in Experimental Group 2 (P<0.001). Dogs in Experimental Group 1 did not differ significantly from Control Group dogs in maximum heart rate when all dogs were considered, but did differ significantly from the Control Group (P=0.04) when only those dogs not currently on anxiety medication were considered. There were no statistically significant differences among groups on behavioral outcomes, except that the dogs in the Control Group were significantly more likely to orient toward the door than the dogs in both Experimental Groups 1 (OR=7.46, P=0.01) and 2 (OR=4.42, P=0.04). Dogs in the Experimental Group 1 presented a trend of less tongue-flicking (P=0.06) and yawning (P=0.07) stress reduction behaviors when compared with the other 2 groups. More research should be conducted with the ThunderShirtReg. on behavioral outcomes. The ThunderShirtReg. can be used with behavior modification programming and medication as an adjunct treatment option to assist dogs diagnosed with anxiety disorder to reduce heart rate.
Country of Publication  
Brazil

Abstract  
The Separation Anxiety Syndrome (SAS) is one of the most common behavioral disorders in dogs. The animals exhibit separation anxiety when left alone. Among the clinical signs it may be observed: defecation and urination in inappropriate locations, destructive behavior, excessive vocalization, depression, anorexia and adipsia and hyperactivity. The SAS was identified in dogs of first year veterinary medicine students through a questionnaire applied to these students. After analyzing the data obtained, it was noticed that from 28 dogs, 15 (53.6%) had the SAS. And that 5 (33.3%) of them were adult females, 4 (26.7%) young females, 4 (26.7%) adult males and 2 (13.3%) young males. The symptom of SAS more frequently observed in this study was the excessive vocalization with 12 (80%) of the total population that showed SAS. Followed by the destruction of objects with 10 (66.7%), defecation in inappropriate places with 9 (60%) and urination in inappropriate places with 7 (46.7%). It was observed that all dogs (100%) exhibited typical manifestations of hyper-attachment. It's concluded that there is a need of information about SAS to the dogs owners. The diagnosis has to be thorough, taking into consideration each animal's chart.

Publication Type  
Journal article

<4>
Accession Number  
20143339735

Author  

Title  
The effect of conspecific removal on the behaviour and physiology of pair-housed shelter dogs.

Source  

Publisher  
Elsevier

Location of Publisher  
Amsterdam

Country of Publication  
Netherlands

Abstract  
Dogs (Canis familiaris) are a highly social species and within a shelter environment pair-housing is recommended to prevent the stress associated with social isolation. Separation of individuals which may have formed bonds in this environment is a usual occurrence, as a result of rehoming or euthanasia. To investigate the impact of separation, the behaviour, cognitive bias, faecal S-IgA and cortisol levels were examined in 12 adult pair-housed dogs, maintained in a private animal shelter. Prior to separation, dogs engaged in more affiliative than agonistic behaviour with conspecifics (means of 3 and 0.1% of time respectively). Following separation, increased activity was observed in the form of more running and grooming (P=0.02), circling (P=0.006), figure of 8 movement (P=0.01), posture changes (P=0.003) and stretching (P=0.005), and less play behaviour was observed (P=0.01). Secretory IgA increased (P=0.02) after separation (mean=443.7+or-182.5 ng/mL; before separation mean=370.1+or-108.2 ng/mL). Cortisol concentrations were not affected by separation (P=0.26, mean before separation=792 ng/g; mean after separation=874 ng/g). There was no indication from cognitive bias testing that the dogs' emotional valency was affected, as latencies to reach ambiguous cues before and after separation did not differ significantly (P=0.33). These results demonstrate that separation of a dog from a conspecific negatively affected behaviour and stimulated the immune system, changes which could be indicative of stress.

Publication Type  
Journal article.
Accession Number
20143282070
Author
Witkowska, O.; Chudalewska, K.
Title
Separation anxiety in dogs. [Polish]
Source
Publisher
Krajowa Izba Lekarsko Weterynaryjna
Location of Publisher
Warszawa
Country of Publication
Poland
Abstract
This paper aims at the presentation of an important problem of dogs welfare. The dog was domesticated about 12-16 thousands years ago. Human-dog interrelationships have evolved since then profoundly. However, in recent years the position of this companion animal in humans' life has changed dramatically. The owner very often leaves the dog alone for a long time. This is a cause of many behavioral problems and seriously compromises dogs welfare. The main problem is the separation anxiety. It can manifest differently in the individual animals. Many years of working with dogs are rich source of Authors' experience in recognizing and treating numerous behavioral problems related to separation anxiety.
Publication Type
Journal article.

Accession Number
20143283952
Author
Amat, M.; Camps, T.; Brech, S. le; Manteca, X.
Title
Source
Animal Welfare; 2014. 23(3):263-266. 45 ref.
Publisher
Universities Federation for Animal Welfare (UFAW)
Location of Publisher
Wheathampstead
Country of Publication
UK
Abstract
Separation anxiety (SA) is one of the most common canine behaviour problems and can have serious negative effects on dog welfare. Treatment of SA may include changing the environment around the dog, pharmacological treatment and behavioural therapy. The latter is considered the most important part of the treatment and is intended to habituate the dog to being alone and to reduce its dependence on the owner. The objective of this paper is to discuss two aspects of the treatment of SA that may be in contradiction with our current understanding of the stress response. Advice commonly given to owners of dogs with SA includes giving false departure cues to prevent the dog from anticipating the actual departure. Instead, we recommend increasing the predictability of the owner's departure by maintaining the cues that signal it. Animals suffering from anxiety disorders are likely to develop contextual fear, ie to be frightened by merely being exposed to the same location where they have experienced an aversive event. As a consequence, we
suggest that whenever possible, fake departures done as part of the habituation exercises to being left are done in a place different from that where the dog is actually left alone.

Publication Type
Journal article.

<8>
Accession Number
20143232674
Author
Tiira, K.; Lohi, H.
Title
Reliability and validity of a questionnaire survey in canine anxiety research.
Source
Publisher
Elsevier
Location of Publisher
Amsterdam
Country of Publication
Netherlands
Abstract
Canine behavior can be assessed through behavioral testing or questionnaire surveys. Behavioral tests, often observed by independent experts, can provide objective data, but capture only a short behavioral sequence in a defined situation and are practical only for small study cohorts. Questionnaires can be targeted to much larger populations and provide long-term perspectives on behaviors, including potential correlated environmental factors. However, questionnaires are sensitive to misinterpretations and the subjectivity of the participant may affect the outcome. Therefore, particular attention has to be paid to structure and form of the questions to ensure that the questionnaire measures what it is supposed to measure. We have initiated a program on genetic studies in canine anxiety and have developed a questionnaire for behavioral phenotyping. The aim of the questionnaire is to identify the most fearful dogs (cases) and dogs not showing fear (controls) within and across breeds for gene mapping purposes. Knowing the challenges in the phenotyping of complex neurobehavioral traits, the aim of this study was to assess the external and convergent validity and re-test reliability of the developed questionnaire. External validity was assessed by comparing questionnaire data against short behavioral test of selected dogs (N=54), and convergent validity was estimated using "known group comparisons", i.e. whether the dogs with separation anxiety have also more noise phobia. Re-test reliability was evaluated from the subsample (N=36) of the owners who filled the questionnaire twice within an 8-month period. We found an excellent correlation between questionnaire data and the behavioral test, and the most important questions on the fearful reactions toward strangers, had the highest correlation with the behavioral test in which the dog met a stranger (mean rs=0.63). Convergent validity was also well demonstrated by showing that a known comorbid anxiety trait, separation anxiety, was more common in noise sensitive dogs as expected (Wilcoxon rank-sum test chi 21,1732=9.8, p<0.01). Similarly, the test-retest reliability was good (mean values: 0.69 Spearman correlation; 0.59 Kappa value). Most importantly, the questions asking the frequency of fear reactions had excellent repeatability (mean frequency of fear reactions toward humans, dogs and situations 0.78 Spearman correlation, toward thunder, gunshot, fireworks, 0.76 Spearman correlation). These results encourage a conclusion that our questionnaire may serve as a reliable phenotyping tool for fearfulness in dogs, which, in turn, should help us to establish sufficiently large study cohorts for successful genetic analyses.

Publication Type
Journal article.

<9>
Accession Number 20143185005
Author Horwitz, D. F.
Title Canine anxiety: hiding in plain sight.
Publisher North American Veterinary Conference
Location of Publisher Gainesville
Country of Publication USA
Publication Type Conference paper.

Accession Number 20143168716
Author Mills, D.
Title Separation anxiety: initial assessment and recommendations.
Publisher British Small Animal Veterinary Association
Location of Publisher Qedgeley
Country of Publication UK
Publication Type Conference paper.

Accession Number 20143161559
Author Cannas, S.; Frank, D.; Minero, M.; Aspesi, A.; Benedetti, R.; Palestrini, C.
Title Video analysis of dogs suffering from anxiety when left home alone and treated with clomipramine.
Source Journal of Veterinary Behavior: Clinical Applications and Research; 2014. 9(2):50-57. 27 ref.
Publisher Elsevier
Location of Publisher New York
Country of Publication USA
**Abstract**

This study sought to film dogs with separation anxiety when left home alone while undergoing treatment with clomipramine and to compile objective information on behaviors exhibited. Twenty-three dogs ranging in age from 5 months to 9 years (mean, 3+ or - 2 years) were included. The dogs were filmed when left home alone for variable periods ranging from 22 to 90 minutes after owner departure. Owners were required to film their dog on 5 occasions. Film 1 served to confirm a diagnosis of separation anxiety. Medication (clomipramine) was prescribed to all dogs. The owners were then asked to film the dogs on days 7, 14, 28, and 56 of the pharmacological treatment, but only 3 repetitions (days 0, 7, and 14) were used for statistical analysis. The initial dosage of clomipramine was 1 mg/kg twice daily for the first week and was then increased to 2 mg/kg twice daily. Any differences in behavior that occurred after clomipramine administration were evaluated using Friedman and Wilcoxon nonparametric tests. A significant beneficial effect of the dosage of 1 mg/kg every 12 hours of clomipramine in increasing passive behavior and reducing locomotion (pacing), scratching, and whining was demonstrated. A beneficial effect of 2 mg/kg every 12 hours in reducing vocalizations (barking and whining) and further increasing time spent in a passive state (resting or sleeping) was also shown. Some signs of separation anxiety may have improved as a consequence of the basic recommendations provided to the dog owners. This study not only confirms the importance of filming dogs home alone for the diagnosis of separation anxiety but also emphasizes the advantages of filming during the treatment of separation anxiety. Clinical effects can be seen as early as 1 week after starting the medication (clomipramine).
behavior as the owner prepared to leave (P=0.0001) and were more likely to be reported as being "needy" (P=0.031). Having another dog in the home was not protective against the development of separation anxiety. Owners in the counseling group were more likely than those in the control group to put food inside a toy at the time of leaving the dog home alone (P=0.0001), suggesting the counseling recommendations were indeed followed by the owners. Owner compliance supports the idea that counseling is a useful tool for owners. Separation anxiety is a disorder whose course may be difficult to alter in recently adopted shelter dogs using only basic, interventional information. Brief counseling and a toy do not effectively prevent the occurrence of this complex behavioral condition. Further investigation should be done to find more specific, effective prevention tools for owners to use in the home to minimize the development of separation anxiety and shelter should be prepared to provide interventional resources to owners whose dogs develop separation anxiety despite these efforts.

Publication Type
Journal article.

<13>
Accession Number
20143016537
Author
Papuc, I.; Deac, L.; Purdoiu, R. C.
Title
The behavioral therapy for separation anxiety in dog.
Source
Publisher
University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine
Location of Publisher
Cluj-Napoca
Country of Publication
Romania
Abstract
The puppies develop attachment to their mother between 3 and 12 weeks. In order to avoid the stress of separation from the mother, the separation should occur around the age of 3 weeks but not later than 6-7 weeks. If the separation is done after 12 weeks is already hard to avoid separation anxiety. At the time of separation from the mother, the puppies consider their master as their family, and when separation from them occur the puppy can experience different degrees of stress that can lead to separation anxiety syndrome. Biological material studied was represented by 112 dogs, of which 42 dogs were diagnosed with separation anxiety syndrome from that we formed a group of 12 dogs whose owners were actively involved in their treatment, and a major role lies in detachment therapy. As working methods were used: ethology consultation, evaluation grid for emotional and cognitive disorders in dogs, questionnaires for owners, observation sheet and statistical data processing. Using behavioral therapy as a method of treatment of separation anxiety in dogs caused a decrease in serum cortisol levels, total erythrocytes, total cholesterol, a slight increase in total leukocytes and magnesium levels, aspects which reveal therapeutic success. Treatment of separation anxiety in dog with behavioral modification techniques gave good results, having a working protocol reliable and easy to apply. In separation anxiety there is no partial recovery.

Publication Type
Journal article.

<14>
Accession Number
20143009068
Author
Scaglia, E.; Cannas, S.; Minero, M.; Frank, D.; Bassi, A.; Palestrini, C.

Title
Video analysis of adult dogs when left home alone.

Source

Publisher
Elsevier

Location of Publisher
New York

Country of Publication
USA

Abstract
The aims of this study were to investigate behaviors exhibited by dogs without separation-related problems when left home alone and to compare the behaviors of this group of dogs (termed "nonclinical") with a group of dogs diagnosed with separation anxiety by a veterinary behaviorist (termed "clinical"), previously published. Thirty dogs divided into 3 groups according to age were video recorded when left home alone for 90 minutes. Thirteen behavioral categories were established to describe duration and frequency of dog activity. Descriptive analysis, nonparametric tests (Kruskal-Wallis test, Mann-Whitney test), and principal component analysis (PCA) were performed. Behavioral video analysis of our sample of nonclinical dogs showed that they spent most of their time when home alone exhibiting passive behavior (54.33±22.27 minutes) as opposed to oriented to environment (8.6±9.4 minutes), play (4.40±5.54 minutes), whining (6.43±2.14 minutes), howling (3.32±4.49 minutes), barking (0.17±0.00 minutes), locomotion (1.121±1.48 minutes), and exploration (0.51±1.25 minutes). Twenty-two dogs (73.3%) exhibited locomotion, 4 dogs (13.3%) whining, 3 dogs (10%) howling, 3 dogs (10%) barking, 17 dogs (56.7%) lip licking (8 times), and 10 dogs (33.3%) yawning (3 times). No statistically significant differences based on age were found. Comparison with data from a previous study about dogs with confirmed separation anxiety was performed using PCA. Analysis showed that passive behavior was exhibited for extended periods in nonclinical dogs contrary to clinical dogs, which displayed behaviors compatible with signs of anxiety.

Publication Type
Journal article.

Accession Number
20133391221

Author
Shearer, P.

Title
Critically appraised topic: what is the most effective therapy for dogs with separation anxiety?

Source
Banfield Journal; 2013. 9(4):3-6. 8 ref.

Publisher
Banfield International

Location of Publisher
Portland

Country of Publication
USA

Publication Type
Journal article.

Accession Number
20133353430
Author
  Dias, M. B. M. C.; Cole, E. F.; Lima, E. R.; Fukahori, F. L. P.; Silva, V. C. L.; Rego, M. S. A.
Title
  Separation anxiety in dog: review. [Portuguese]
Source
  Medicina Veterinaria (Brasil); 2013. 7(3):39-46. 17 ref.
Publisher
  Universidade Federal Rural de Pernambuco
Location of Publisher
  Recife
Country of Publication
  Brazil
Abstract
  In dogs, the Syndrome of Anxiety of Separation (SASA) understands a set of behaviors shown for these animals when they are moved away physically from its proprietors or other figures of attachment, frequently described when these animals are left alone in house. The behaviors most common are extreme vocalization, object destruction, micturition and defecation is of the definitive place. The syndrome also can include vomits, beyond compulsory behaviors as the compulsory lickin of members or flank. It does not have sexual predilection or for race, however the collected dogs of street in adoption kennels present predisposition for the Anxiety of Separation. Generally these dogs are anxious, agitated and super assets, follow the proprietor for all side, polish on of it and run without stopping. The diagnosis is made through the description of the dog. The treatment can be made associating mannering, medicine and/or alternative therapy.
Publication Type
  Journal article.

<17>
Accession Number
  20133225212
Author
  Horwitz, D. F.
Title
  Casting a wider net: catching separation anxiety in dogs.
Source
Publisher
  North American Veterinary Conference
Location of Publisher
  Gainesville
Country of Publication
  USA
Publication Type
  Conference paper.

<18>
Accession Number
  20133103625
Author
  Reisner, I.
Title
  Canine separation anxiety.
This article discusses the definition of separation anxiety, identifying signalment, determining a diagnosis, and developing a management plan in treating canine separation anxiety.

Author
Spiller, P. R.; Novais, A. A.; Moretto, V. M. dos S.

Title
A descriptive study on anxiety separation syndrome (ASS) in dogs. [Portuguese]

Source
Clinica Veterinaria; 2012. 17(101):56-62. 29 ref.

Abstract
The aim of this study was to verify the occurrence of anxiety separation syndrome (ASS) in dogs from Sinop/MT, Brazil. For this purpose, a questionnaire was developed and applied to owners of one hundred male and female dogs of both pure breed and mixed breeds from local veterinary clinics or from the Veterinary Hospital of UFMT, Campus Sinop. Results showed 28% prevalence of ASS among the studied population. Most frequent symptoms were excessive vocalization (60.7%), inappropriate urination (50%), destructive behavior (35.7%) and inappropriate defecation (17.8%). All positive dogs showed owner hyperattachment, and 32.1% (9 animals) had compulsive disorder. Results indicated a significant prevalence of ASS in dogs from Sinop; further research should be developed to measure its impact on animals and human society.

Accession Number
20123387671

Author
Asztalos, L.; Papuc, I.

Title
Treatment of separation anxiety in dogs with reconcile.

Source
Separation anxiety is one of the most common behavior problems of companion dogs. Ignoring the problem or an inadequate treatment can lead to abandonment, relinquishment to an animal shelter, or even euthanasia of affected dogs. A successful treatment is based on a management plan that improves the relationship between the owner and the dog, with behavior therapy, and provides appropriate medication.

Our purpose was to evaluate the efficacy of Reconcile (Fluoxetine hydrochloride) in treatment of separation anxiety. For establishing the correct diagnosis were used anamnesis questionnaires, clinical and semiological methods and also paraclinical test. The results of this study demonstrate the clinical efficacy of Reconcile combined with behavioral therapy, for the treatment of separation anxiety in dogs.

Changes in a dog's social system can cause separation anxiety when the owner is absent. Two casuistics from behavioral therapy in private practice describe possible therapy steps.
Country of Publication
Italy

Abstract
Separation anxiety is a pathology frequently observed in cases of specialized behavioural problems. The main demonstrations are destructiveness, vocalizations, escape attempts and inappropriate elimination. All this is perceived by the owner mistakenly as "spiteful" to which the dog is wrongly punished, increasing anxiety and destroying human-dog relationship. Rather than inadvertent mistakes of education by the owner, often causes could be due to any traumatic episodes as early adoption, another abandon from a pack-family or a significant change of everyday life. By literature, the therapy includes environmental, behavioral and pharmacological interventions. Practically it's preferable to base the treatment on pharmacology and predictability.

Publication Type
Journal article.

<23>
Accession Number
20123241307
Author
Horwitz, D. F.; Martin, D.
Title
Managing separation anxiety: steps to promote client compliance.
Source
Publisher
The North American Veterinary Conference
Location of Publisher
Gainesville
Country of Publication
USA
Publication Type
Conference paper.

<24>
Accession Number
20123055680
Author
Lindley, S.
Title
The effects of pain on behaviour and behavioural problems. Part 2: Fear and anxiety.
Source
Publisher
UK Vet Publications
Location of Publisher
Newbury
Country of Publication
UK
Abstract
Pain, fear and anxiety are intimately linked in the brain and body, anatomically, chemically and as a function of survival. It is not surprising therefore that many behavioural problems caused by pain manifest as fear and anxiety, including separation problems; sound sensitivities; pacing and panting; and avoidance of previously
accepted places to walk and/or sleep. The clues that indicate a clinical cause of a behavioural problem are often not specific to pain and further investigation or clinical assessment is often needed to identify pain as a likely cause. This article illustrates these principles by two cases of anxiety caused by pain.

Publication Type
Journal article.

<25>
Accession Number
20123019187
Author
Konok, V.; Doka, A.; Miklosi, A.
Title
The behavior of the domestic dog (Canis familiaris) during separation from and reunion with the owner: a questionnaire and an experimental study.
Source
Publisher
Elsevier Ltd
Location of Publisher
Oxford
Country of Publication
UK
Abstract
We have constructed a questionnaire to investigate the separation behavior in a sample of family dogs (Canis familiaris) (N=45) and in parallel we have observed dogs' separation-related behavior in a simple behavioral test (Separation and greeting test, S&G). We recorded the dogs' behavior during the separation from and reunion (greeting) with the owner. We investigated whether owners' report about their dogs' separation behavior reflected the separation behavior under controlled testing conditions. Furthermore, we wanted to find out whether the duration of separation affected the behavior of dogs and whether there was some relationship between separation and greeting behavior. Dogs that were rated by their owner to be more "anxious" during separation and "happier" at reunion, showed more activity and stress-related behavior during separation, and more affection toward the owner during greeting. Dogs with owner-reported separation-related disorder (SRD) showed more stress-related behavior, they spent less time near the owner's chair during separation, and were more active during greeting than dogs without SRD. The two groups of dogs did not differ in affectionate behavior shown toward the owner. Non-affected dogs' activity decreased with increasing separation duration, but dogs with SRD did not show this change in their separation behavior. Our results show that owners' have a realistic view on their dogs' separation behavior. In addition, dogs with SRD may not be "hyper-attached" to their owners because they do not show more affection during greeting. Moreover, dogs with SRD do not show preference for the owners' objects left behind and they cannot be easily calmed by the returning owner. Our questionnaire and the Separation and greeting test could be used for screening dogs with suspected separation-related behavior problems.
Publication Type
Journal article.

<26>
Accession Number
20113161441
Author
Neilson, J. C.
Title
Source

Publisher
The North American Veterinary Conference
Location of Publisher
Gainesville
Country of Publication
USA
Publication Type
Conference paper.

Accession Number
20113161427
Author
Radosta, L.
Title
Separation anxiety case studies.
Source
Publisher
The North American Veterinary Conference
Location of Publisher
Gainesville
Country of Publication
USA
Publication Type
Conference paper.

Accession Number
20113114247
Author
Dodman, N.
Title
Separation anxiety? Try 4-step program.
Source
Publisher
BowTie News
Location of Publisher
Irvine
Country of Publication
USA
Publication Type
Journal article.
The separation anxiety syndrome (SAS) is defined by a group of altered behaviors showed by dogs when they are left alone, contributing for the most common behavior problems in this specie. The basic clinical signs of SAS are the following: distress vocalization (whining, barking, howling), destructiveness and house soiling. SAS reduce the animal's life quality and is a frequent cause of abandonment and euthanasia of these dogs. The goal of this research was to verify the occurrence of SAS in dogs from Fernandopolis, SP, referred to the veterinary hospital of Unicastelo, in the period lying between december/2007 and december/2008. Seventy five animals were studied, comprising 30 (40%) adult males, 9 (12%) young males, 30 (40%) adult females and 6 (8%) young females. The dogs were evaluated through data given by the owners, according to a behavior questionnaire. From the obtained results we may conclude the occurrence of SAS in 68% of the studied dogs.

The effects of fear and anxiety on health and lifespan in pet dogs.

Fear and anxiety-related behaviors are common in pet dogs and are likely to cause a physiological stress response in individuals that are exposed to those things they find fear or anxiety-inducing. Stress responses are related to a number of changes in hormonal and immune modulation and have been shown in many species to be related to disease processes and shortened lifespan. It was predicted that dogs with fear and anxiety disorders would have decreased lifespan and increased disease frequency and severity. In this retrospective study, owners of 721 deceased dogs completed a 99 question on-line survey that asked about the demographics, training, behavioral characteristics, health history, age at and cause of death in their pets. Correlational and regression analyses were performed to explore relationships between behavior; fear and
anxiety subscales; lifespan; and specific diseases and causes of death. Results show that how "well-behaved" an owner felt their dog was positively correlated with lifespan ($R^2=0.18$, $P<0.001$). Dogs with extreme non-social fear and separation anxiety were found to have an increased severity and frequency of skin disorders ($R^2=0.03$, $P<0.001$). While neither stranger-directed fear nor any other fear or anxiety scales were related to specific causes of death, fear of strangers was found to be related to a significantly shortened lifespan ($R^2=0.16$, $P<0.001$). There is evidence to suggest that the stress of living with a fear or anxiety disorder can have negative effects on health and lifespan in the domestic dog.

**Publication Type**
Journal article.

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<31>
Accession Number  
20103181680
Author  
Curtis, T. M.
Title  
Separation anxiety in dogs and cats.
Source  
Publisher  
The North American Veterinary Conference
Location of Publisher  
Gainesville
Country of Publication  
USA
Publication Type  
Conference paper.

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<32>
Accession Number  
20103153527
Author  
Horwitz, D.
Title  
Separation anxiety in dogs.
Source  
Publisher  
Royal Canin
Location of Publisher  
Boulogne
Country of Publication  
France
Abstract  
The aetiology, prevalence, clinical signs, diagnosis, different manifestations, treatment and prognosis of separation anxiety in dogs are presented.
Publication Type  
Journal article.
Accession Number
20103116702
Author
Sands, D.
Title
Separation-related disorder: dealing with dogged problem.
Source
Publisher
Veterinary Business Development Ltd
Location of Publisher
Peterborough
Country of Publication
UK
Abstract
This article discusses the different signs of stress; behavioural display; diagnosis; causes and potential treatment of separation-related disorder or separation anxiety in dogs.
Publication Type
Journal article.

Accession Number
20103115197
Author
Landsberg, G.; Denenberg, S.
Title
Separation anxiety - new approaches to therapy - a case based approach.
Source
Publisher
Ontario Veterinary Medical Association (OVMA)
Location of Publisher
Milton
Country of Publication
Canada
Publication Type
Conference paper.