Increased renal vascular resistance in dogs with hepatic disease.

Abstract

Doppler ultrasound is a non-invasive technique that can be used to estimate vascular resistance by calculation of resistive index (RI) and pulsatility index (PI). Liver disease may increase renal RI and PI, and in humans with liver disease the indices are monitored to attain prognostic information. Systemic hypertension has been found in dogs with hepatic disease and is also related to increased renal vascular resistance in humans. The aim of this study was to examine renal vascular resistance increases in dogs with hepatic disease and to ascertain whether these may be related to blood pressure increases and biochemical parameters. Twenty dogs with hepatic disease were evaluated. The mean renal RI, PI, and systolic blood pressure were significantly higher than in normal animals. A positive correlation was found between the indices and alkaline phosphatase but not with systolic blood pressure. It is concluded that renal vascular resistance may increase in dogs with hepatic disease and in this study was above the limit value in 50% of the animals.
Keywords
Dog; Liver; Resistive index; Pulsatility index; Hypertension

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