Hi All,

Many thanks to Patricia Jordan for submitting the article below (and a summary of a paper by Laura J. Sanborn) for discussion on the PVA-L List. I have edited her texts slightly.

Patricia raises interesting questions. Please keep any comments on these questions / issues as close as you can to TCM principles.

Best regards, Phil Rogers

Comments by Patricia Jordan on vaccination and spaying / neutering of animals:

Much is known now about effects of early spay / neuter programs. As vets, we should understand these medical effects on our patients. Knowing that vaccinations are causing many adverse events, not least of which is cancer, I find that that most of my spayed & neutered patients are also indeed multiply vaccinated. I suggest that many of these medical affects are due directly to vaccination.

In CM, vaccinations cause Xuexu; this is realized when many vaccinated animal patients show Deficiency at BL17, Influential point of Xue. Dr. Xie replied to my question on this issue:

"Vaccines generally are considered as Heat Toxin; in TCVM, there are two major side-effects of vaccination: LV Yinxu / Xuexu & Phlegm Accumulation.

LV Yinxu / Xuexu: When Heat Toxin enters body, LV Yin confronts it & tries to Cool Heat & Clear Toxin. For a strong individual w sufficient LV Yin, a mild vaccination program should not cause problems as LV Yin is strong enough to Clear Heat + Toxin. Consuming LV Yin can recover & regenerate from KI Yin (or KI Jing) & LV Xue."

Dr. Xie found that most cases of acute vaccination reactions have some degree of LV Yinxu / Xuexu / KI Jingxu. Excessive vaccination causes excessive Heat Toxin & damages LV Yin, & then LV Xue (during processing when LV Xue is reinforced for damaged LV Yin), gradually leading to Xuexu. LV Stores Xue.

Phlegm Accumulation: Excessive Heat boils Fluids, gradually causing Phlegm. Phlegm Accumulation leads to lumps, masses or even cancer.

There are no requirements for vets to collect & report statistics of different companion animal cancers. However, a review of pet insurance records did show that of 4 most common human cancers (breast, lung, prostate & colon), only breast cancer was common in dogs.

Soft tissue sarcomas, for example, in muscles, joint tissues & nerves, are most common tumors in animals. Soft tissue sarcomas (most common cancer in companion animals) are found in <1% of human cancer patients. So, what are differences between people & their pets? Early spay neuter programs & multiple vaccination administrations are differences & poor quality commercial pet food diets.

Causes of soft tissue sarcomas in animals are well studied & understood now. Findings of Feline Vaccine Sarcoma Task Force show a clear correlation to vaccine administration & cancer formation. Cancers are not only in cats but also dogs & ferrets & are not limited to injection site & not only to fibrosarcomas. Not only are soft tissue sarcomas from vaccines, so are most of other tumors as well. Documented cases of lymphoma have resulted in patients developing vaccine injection site fibrosarcomas.

In 1999 WHO named veterinary vaccine adjuvant a Grade 3 out of 4 carcinogen, with Grade 4 being most carcinogenic. Adjuvant identified is aluminum hydroxide, a component of most currently used veterinary vaccines. Immunosuppression & genetic mutations of patient's p53 oncogene are both routes to cancer via vaccine administration.

Now, one can see that animal patient, especially one that is suffering years of excessive vaccination & genetic mutations, weakened genetics, Jingxu is also then spayed or neutered early why, we would get exactly results that are illustrated below in Laura Sandborn's paper (below).

My personal experience demonstrates a strong correlation to adverse events after vaccination in any animal whose Mingmen & other lower lumbar acupuncture points palpate as Deficient. This I believe can be used to identify Jingxu & predict vaccine adverse events.

Spaying / neutering is another thing to consider for our animal patients.

In TCM, KI Organ includes sexual organs & sexual function. Gonads were a part of adrenal cortex at just over a month of gestation. Gonads & adrenal cortex had same source cells, histology & same steroid hormone output; they were same tissue. Then gonads descended down through tissue of KI toward pelvis. Adrenal cortex & KI in WM were collectively original tissue of gonads. In CM, removal of gonads is equivalent to removal of Jing-Essence & therefore yet another Deficiency for patient to be treated. Adverse events due to vaccination are much higher in spayed & neutered animals. Again, we have to be reminded that population of sterilized animals will also no doubt have been overly vaccinated as well.

A summary of a significant paper by Laura J. Sanborn is listed below in order to help TCVM practitioners, as well as western allopathic practitioners, to integrate this knowledge to benefit their animal patients.

Long-Term Health Risks & Benefits Associated with Spay / Neuter in Dogs Laura J. Sanborn, M.S. May 14, 2007

SUMMARY: An objective reading of veterinary medical literature reveals a complex situation with respect to long-term health risks & benefits associated with spay / neuter in dogs. evidence shows that spay / neuter correlates with both positive & adverse health effects in dogs. It also suggests how much we really do not yet understand about this subject. On balance, it appears that no compelling case can be made for neutering most male dogs, especially immature male dogs, in order to prevent future health problems. number of health problems associated with neutering may exceed associated health benefits in most cases.

On positive side, neutering male dogs eliminates small risk (probably <1%) of dying from testicular cancer, reduces risk of non-cancerous prostate disorders, reduces risk of perianal fistulas, may possibly reduce risk of diabetes (data inconclusive).

On negative side, neutering male dogs, if done <1 year of age, significantly increases risk of osteosarcoma [a common bone cancer in medium/large & larger breeds with a poor prognosis] increases risk of cardiac hemangiosarcoma by a factor of 1.6 triples risk of hypothyroidism increases risk of progressive geriatric cognitive impairment triples risk of obesity, a common health problem in dogs with many associated health problems quadruples small risk (<0.6%) of prostate cancer doubles small risk (<1%) of urinary tract cancers increases risk of orthopedic disorders increases risk of adverse reactions to vaccinations

For female dogs, situation is more complex. number of health benefits associated with spaying may exceed associated health problems in some (not all) cases. On balance, whether spaying improves the odds of overall good health or degrades them probably depends on age of female dog & the relative risk of various diseases in different breeds.

On positive side, spaying female dogs, if done <2.5 years of age: greatly reduces risk of mammary tumors, most common malignant tumors in female dogs nearly eliminates risk of pyometra, which otherwise would affect about 23% of intact female dogs; pyometra kills about 1% of intact

female dogs reduces risk of perianal fistulas

removes very small risk (_0.5%) from uterine, cervical, & ovarian tumors

On negative side, spaying female dogs, if done <1 year of age: significantly increases risk of osteosarcoma; increases risk of splenic hemangiosarcoma by a factor of 2.2 & cardiac hemangiosarcoma by a factor of >5; this is a common cancer & major cause of death in some breeds triples risk of hypothyroidism increases risk of obesity by a factor of 1.6-2, a common health problem in dogs with many associated health problems causes urinary "spay incontinence" in 4-20% of female dogs increases risk of persistent or recurring urinary tract infections by a factor of 3-4 increases risk of recessed vulva, vaginal dermatitis, & vaginitis, especially for female dogs spayed before puberty doubles small risk (<1%) of urinary tract tumors increases risk of orthopedic disorders increases risk of adverse reactions to vaccinations

One thing is clear - much of spay / neuter information that is available is unbalanced and contains claims that are exaggerated or unsupported by evidence. Rather than helping to educate pet owners, much of it has contributed to common misunderstandings about health risks & benefits associated of spay / neuter in dogs.

The traditional spay / neuter age of 6 months as well as modern practice of pediatric spay / neuter appear to predispose dogs to health risks that could otherwise be avoided by waiting until dog is physically mature, or perhaps in case of many male dogs, foregoing it altogether unless medically necessary

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