

Table 1. Summary of the effect of treatment of endometritis on time-to-pregnancy (pregnancy rate relative to untreated controls, adjusted for herd, parity group and ovarian structures)

n Treatment	Endometritis 20-26 DIM		Endometritis 27-33 DIM	
	RR Pregnancy	P value	RR Pregnancy	P value
IU antibiotic	1.01	.96	1.63	.07
Prostaglandin	0.94	.72	1.18	.52
P value for contrast between treatments	.68		.19	

Efficacy of Ceftiofur Hydrochloride Administered Parenterally for Five Consecutive Days for Treatment of Acute Post-partum Metritis in Dairy Cows

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Introduction

The objective of this study was to evaluate under clinical, field conditions the efficacy of ceftiofur hydrochloride [HCl] as EXCENEL® RTU Sterile Suspension administered parenterally at doses of 1.1 or 2.2 mg ceftiofur equivalents (CE)/kg body weight (BW; 0.5 or 1.0 mg CE/lb BW) for five days for the treatment of acute post-partum metritis in dairy cows.

Materials and Methods

The study was conducted during 2000 at eight commercial dairies in the United States using a common protocol. Dairy cows (n=406), 1 to 14 d post-partum, with rectal temperature (RT) $\geq 103^{\circ}\text{F}$ (39.5°C) and a fetid vaginal/uterine discharge (FD) were enrolled. Eligible cows were assigned randomly in blocks to three treatment groups: saline control, or ceftiofur HCl at either 1.1 mg or 2.2mg CE/kg BW administered SC or IM for five days [study day (SD) 1 = day of enrollment/

first day of treatment]. Cows were administered supportive fluid therapy and/or escape therapy at the discretion of the investigator. On SD 6, 10 and 14, each cow was examined, rumen contractions (RC), heart rate (HR), and scleral injection (SI) and dehydration score (DS) were recorded and cows determined to be "cured" or "failed to cure."

Cured was defined as not receiving escape therapy, and RT $< 103^{\circ}\text{F}$ (39.5°C) and absence of FD. Failed to cure was defined as receiving escape therapy and/or RT $\geq 103^{\circ}\text{F}$ and/or presence of FD.

Rectal temperature was taken on SD 1-6, 10 and 14. Cure rates were statistically analyzed, sequentially, on SD 14, then 10, then 6 and if statistical superiority was detected for a treatment group relative to control, the analyses for that treatment was stopped. Rectal temperature also was analyzed. Protocol deviations or missing observations resulted in 353, 363 and 362 cows included in analyses on SD 6, 10 and 14, respectively.

Results

On SD 14, cure rate (as defined above) for the 2.2 mg CE/kg BW group was significantly higher than that of the control group. On SD 14, 10 or 6 there was no evidence that the 1.1 mg CE/kg BW treatment group had a significantly higher cure rate (as defined above) than the control group. However, expanding the definition of cure to include the other clinical observations (HR, SI, RC, DS), the 1.1 mg CE/kg BW dose was distinguishable, statistically, from the control group. During the five days of treatment, the two ceftiofur treatment groups had similar patterns in RT reduction

that were significantly lower ($p \leq 0.012$) than the pattern in RT reduction observed in the control group.

Conclusions

Ceftiofur HCl administered at 2.2 mg CE/kg BW for five days is efficacious for the treatment of acute post-partum metritis in the dairy cow. By expanding the definition of cure, the 1.1 mg CE/kg BW dose could be distinguished from control and, therefore, is defined as effective for the treatment of acute post-partum metritis.

Table 1.

Treatment Group	Cure rate (%)							
	6		10		14			
	%	N	%	N	%	N		
Saline	23	117	44	118	63	116		
1.1 mg CE/kg BW	27	117	47	122	66	123		
2.2 mg CE/kg BW	NT [†]		NT		77*	123		

†Not tested * Significantly greater than saline ($p=0.006$; one sided)

Descriptive Epidemiology of Udder Cleft Dermatitis in a Dairy Herd with Sarcoptic Mange

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Introduction

Udder rot, or intertrigo of the udder, is characterized by foul-smelling, necrotic lesions between the lateral udder and medial thigh or between the halves of the udder. The etiology is unknown, but suspected causes include periparturient edema and mite infestation. The purpose of our study was to describe the oc-

currence of udder cleft dermatitis in a dairy herd experiencing an outbreak of sarcoptic mange.

Materials and Methods

The investigation was carried out in February 2000 in a New York dairy herd. Cows either milking or within one month of calving were examined for presence or