

Efficacy of a Novel Formulation of Metaflumizone Plus Amitraz (ProMeris for dogs) for the Treatment of Demodectic Mange in Dogs¹

Introduction

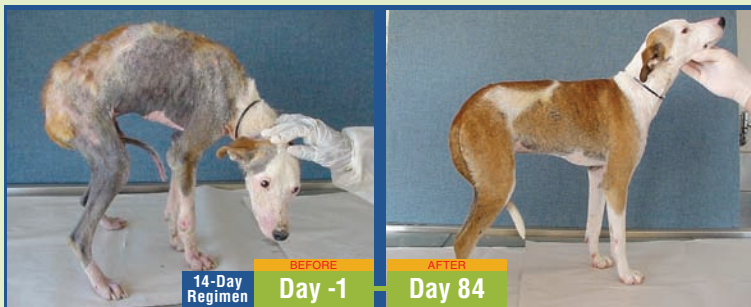
Demodectic mange, caused by *Demodex spp.* mites, is an inflammatory skin disease characterized by a marked increase in mites within the pilosebaceous glands. It is among the most detrimental skin diseases a dog can contract. The disease is classified as localized or generalized relative to the extent of the lesions. ProMeris for dogs is a product that combines the novel insecticide metaflumizone with the acaricide amitraz in a spot-on formulation. We report here on the results of an exploratory study aimed at determining the (150 mg metaflumizone and 150 mg amitraz mL⁻¹) efficacy of this formulation against demodectic mange in dogs when applied at 0.133 mL kg⁻¹ (20 mg kg⁻¹ of each of metaflumizone and amitraz) at 28-day or 14-day intervals.

Material and Methods

Sixteen dogs with clinical signs of canine generalized demodicosis were randomly allocated to two groups of eight animals each and treated with ProMeris for dogs. Fifteen dogs completed the study. The seven dogs in Group 1 were treated on Days 0, 28 and 56, and the eight dogs in Group 2 were treated on Days 0, 14, 28, 42, 56 and 70. To assess *Demodex* mite infestations, deep skin scrapings were taken on Days -3 to -1, 28, 56 and 84 from five sites on each animal. Clinical signs and the extent of demodectic lesions on each dog were also assessed on the days when scrapings were made.

Results

Six of seven Group 1 dogs and seven of eight Group 2 dogs were free of clinical signs by the conclusion of the study. The actual appearance, before and after treatment, is shown below for two dogs treated at 28-day intervals and two treated at 14-day intervals.



ProMeris[®]
for dogs

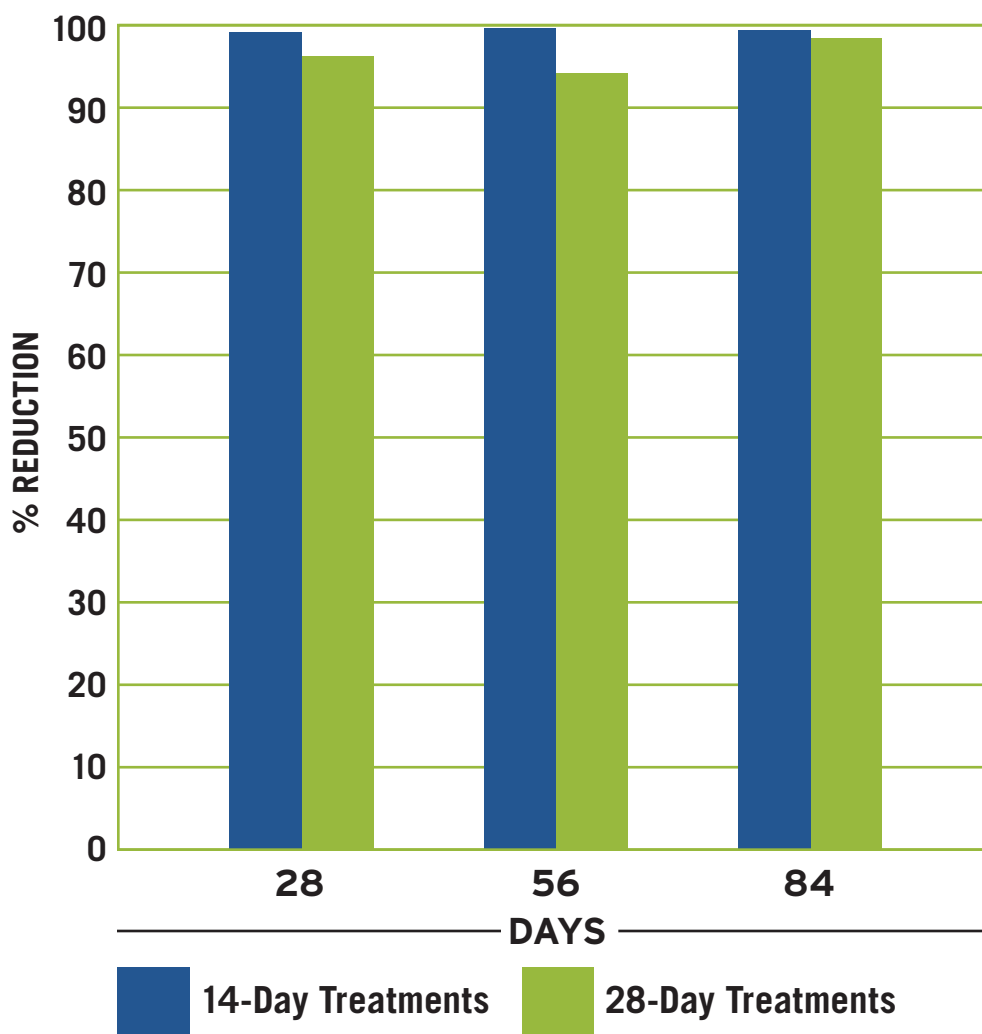
Discussion and Conclusion

This study showed treatment with ProMeris for dogs at the commercial dose rate applied at 28-day or 14-day intervals, rapidly reduced Demodex mite numbers on dogs and resulted in a marked clinical improvement in the signs associated with this skin disease. ProMeris for dogs is an easy to use, gentle and efficacious acaricide.

Summary

At the conclusion of this study, all but one dog in each treatment group were considered to be free of clinical signs after treatment with ProMeris for dogs. Mite counts were reduced by 99.6 percent in the group treated every other week and 98.6 percent in the group receiving monthly treatments. Of dogs in the group treated every other week, 62.5 percent were considered mite free, and 42.9 percent of dogs in the group receiving three monthly treatments were considered mite free. ProMeris for dogs produced dramatic decreases in mite counts and resolved clinical signs in dogs treated with either protocol. No adverse events related to treatment were observed.

The percentage reduction in mite numbers of dogs receiving three 28-day or six 14-day treatments with ProMeris for dogs.



1. Fourie LJ, et al. Efficacy of a novel formulation of metaflumizone plus amitraz for the treatment of demodectic mange in dogs. *Veterinary Parasitology*, 150 (2007) 268-274.

