

Effect of CBD/CBDA in Client-owned Cats on Urinary Behavior

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Overview

Urinary health is an important issue for cats and cat owners. Frequent urination, discomfort, and urinating outside the litter box are common presenting complaints at veterinary facilities. Alterations in urinary behavior in the absence of a definitive medical cause are often linked to stress. This study explored the effect of a CBD/CBDA-rich hemp extract on urinary behavior in cats.

Materials and Methods

Cats were identified by veterinary practitioners across the US with altered urinary behavior and with no other apparent medical cause for the urinary abnormalities. The study was an open-label trial without blinding or placebo controls, designed as a preliminary investigation. Fifteen cats completed the 6-week study, with owners able to give at least 75% of the scheduled administration. Each cat's owner completed a baseline questionnaire evaluating several aspects of their cat's urinary behavior and response to stressors. The cats were then administered approximately 2mg/kg twice daily of a soft-gel formulation of CBD/CBDA-rich hemp extract from ElleVet Sciences. At the conclusion of the 6-week study period, owners were asked to complete another questionnaire, rating the degree of improvement in several specific urinary and behavioral parameters, as well as their overall impression of improvement.

Results

Owner assessments demonstrated improvement in urinary and social behavior in the participating cats.

The success rate, determined by the owner's impression of overall improvement in social or urinary behavior, was 80% (12/15). Two-thirds of the owners reported that signs were mostly or completely resolved by the end of the 6-week period.

Results for specific parameters:

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| Inappropriate urination | 13 cats reported inappropriate urination. 69% improved and 31% resolved. |
| Discomfort when urinating | 7 cats reported initial discomfort. 86% improved and 71% resolved. |
| Positive family interactions | 15 cats; 67% improved and 27% dramatically improved. |
| Interactions with other pets | 15 cats; 60% improved and 40% dramatically improved. |
| Interactions with visitors | 12 cats had visitors during the trial. 75% improved. |
| Hiding when stressed | 15 cats; 33% improved and 17% dramatically improved. |
| Overall stress | 15 cats; 80% improved and 40% dramatically improved. |

Conclusion

CBD/CBDA appeared to have a positive effect on social and urinary behavior in this small open-label trial. There is justification for trial use in appropriate situations and opportunity for further investigation. Future trials with rigorous design will shed more light on efficacy for the common and frustrating problem of inappropriate urinary behavior.