

# Supplementary file: Use of Deoxycorticosterone Pivalate by Veterinarians: a Western European Survey

*This survey is anonymous and data are confidential. Please, be honest in your answers, so we can get valid and representative conclusions. When filling it, the respondent certifies that he/she consents to the author's use information and agrees that data can be used for scientific study purpose and further publication.*

<b>1. In the last 12 months, how many cases of hypoadrenocorticism did you diagnose/follow?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I did not diagnose/follow any case over the last 12 months</li><li>• 1-5</li><li>• 5-10</li><li>• 10-20</li><li>• &gt;20</li></ul>

## Section 1 - Preference between DOCP and Fludrocortisone

<b>2. In animals recently diagnosed with hypoadrenocorticism, which one of the following drugs do you usually use for treatment?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fludrocortisone</li><li>• Deoxycorticosterone Pivalate</li><li>• Prednisone/Prednisolone + Fludrocortisone</li><li>• Prednisone/Prednisolone + Deoxycorticosterone Pivalate</li></ul>
<b>3. If you used DOCP why did you use it? (You can tick more than 1 option)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Because DOCP is licensed for veterinary use</li><li>• Due to owner's <i>Compliance</i></li><li>• There is a better electrolytic control and for a long term with DOCP</li><li>• Because it is a new compound</li><li>• Because, after treatment with Prednisone/Prednisolone + Fludrocortisone, the animal had some clinical side effects due to excess of glucocorticoids</li><li>• Better clinical control of hypoadrenocorticism with DOCP</li></ul>
<b>4. If you used fludrocortisone, why did you use it? (You can tick more than 1 option)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I do not know DOCP</li><li>• I know DOCP, but I don't feel comfortable using it</li><li>• I have experienced hypersensitivity to DOCP in previous cases</li><li>• I'm afraid about drug interactions with DOCP</li><li>• I have dogs with other concomitant diseases (e.g. congestive heart disease, renal disease, hepatic disease...) that can compromise the use of DOCP</li><li>• Pregnant bitches</li><li>• Lower cost comparing to DOCP</li><li>• I have good feedback and experience with Fludrocortisone</li><li>• The owners prefer an oral administration</li><li>• I don't have DOCP in stock</li></ul>
<b>5. Have you ever switched Fludrocortisone to DOCP in a dog with typical HypoAC already on treatment?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Yes</li><li>• No</li></ul>
<b>6. If you answered no (on question 5), why did you not switch for DOCP? (You can tick more than 1 option)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I have a good positive response to Fludrocortisone</li><li>• I am more familiarized with Fludrocortisone</li><li>• DOCP is more expensive</li><li>• Because treatment with Fludrocortisone works well</li><li>• I do not know DOCP</li><li>• I know DOCP, but I don't feel comfortable using it</li><li>• I have experienced hypersensitivity to DOCP in previous cases</li></ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I'm afraid about drug interactions with DOCP</li> <li>• I have dogs with other concomitant diseases (e.g. congestive heart disease, renal disease, hepatic disease...) that can compromise the use of DOCP</li> <li>• Pregnant bitches</li> <li>• Lower cost comparing to DOCP</li> <li>• I have good feedback and experience with Fludrocortisone</li> <li>• The owners prefer an oral administration</li> <li>• I don't have DOCP in stock</li> </ul>
<b>7. If you answered yes (on question 5) - Why did you switch for DOCP? (You can tick more than 1 option)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Because DOCP is licensed for veterinary use</li> <li>• Due to owner's <i>Compliance</i></li> <li>• There is a better electrolytic control and for a long term with DOCP</li> <li>• Because it is a new compound</li> <li>• Because, after treatment with Prednisone/Prednisolone + Fludrocortisone, the animal had some clinical side effects due to excess of glucocorticoids</li> <li>• Better clinical control of hypoadrenocorticism with DOCP</li> </ul>
<b>8. If you answered yes (on question 5) - How did you perform the transition?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I've administered DOCP and stopped Fludrocortisone on the same day</li> <li>• I've administered DOCP and progressively reduced the Fludrocortisone dosage during 5 - 7 days</li> <li>• I stopped Fludrocortisone and in the following day I started DOCP</li> </ul>
<b>9. Have you ever used DOCP?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• No</li> </ul>

## Section 2 - Protocol for use of DOCP

<b>10. If you use DOCP, which initial dose do you recommend?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2.2 mg/kg</li> <li>• 2 mg/kg</li> <li>• 1.5 mg/kg</li> <li>• 1 mg/kg</li> <li>• &lt; 1 mg/kg</li> <li>• Do not remember</li> </ul>
<b>11. Who is the person responsible for DOCP administration?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Veterinarian</li> <li>• Owner (after instructions)</li> <li>• Veterinary Nurse/Tech</li> </ul>
<b>12. After the first DOCP dose, when do you monitor electrolytes?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At day 10 and day 25 after injection</li> <li>• At day 10 and day 28-30 after injection</li> <li>• Only at day 10 after injection</li> <li>• Only at day 25 after injection</li> <li>• Only at day 28-30 after injection</li> </ul>
<b>13. After the first dose of DOCP, when do you evaluate/reassess dogs for a subsequent administration?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Every 28 days (ex: Monday of every month)</li> <li>• Every 30 days (ex: day 1 of every month)</li> <li>• Every 25 days (as indicated in the package insert)</li> <li>• When dogs start deteriorating</li> </ul>
<b>14. Based on your experience, when a dog under DOCP is clinically stable, do you change the current dose?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I tend to reduce the dose following manufacturer's recommendations</li> <li>• Usually, I don't reduce dose and keep the initial one (2.2mg/kg)</li> <li>• I just start the treatment with a lower dose, so I don't reduce it</li> <li>• I start the treatment with a lower dose and thereafter, I still reduce it progressively</li> </ul>
<b>15. Concerning therapeutic adjustments in a medium-term perspective, what do you prioritize in a stable dog? Do you increase the time between DOCP administrations or do you decrease its dose?</b>

- First, I tend to reduce the dose before extending the period between injections
- First, I increase the period between injections before reducing the dosage
- I follow manufacturer's recommendations in order to avoid worsening of clinical signs in a medium-term

**16. In a long term perspective, when do you monitor dogs under DOCP treatment?**

- Every month
- Every 3 months
- Every 6 months
- Once a year