Abstract

Foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) is a highly contagious viral infection in domestic and wild cattle, sheep, goats and pigs. Theranekron® is a homeopathic remedy manufactured by Richter Pharma AG, Austria, containing the spider, Tarantula cubensis. Since 2013 Theranekron D6® (new potentiation) is available on the market in some countries. The aim of this trial is therefore to compare the efficacy of Theranekron D2® and Theranekron D6® in cattle with FMD. As a whole, 90 naturally infected cattle (beef and dairy cattle) in early stages of disease, came from two big farm and three small farms, included into the study. The animals randomised to three different groups and encountered to three different treatment regimens. In the first group, 30 animals received Theranekron D2 and in the second group, 30 animals received Theranekron D6. Thirty infected animals simultaneously studied as control group. Animals in the control group received classic treatment including: daily intramuscular injection of flunixin meglumine, Oxytetracycline for the prevention of secondary bacterial infections and daily dressing of lesions with 4% sodium carbonate solution. Clinical signs recorded on day 0 (treatment day) and on days 1, 2, 3, 7, 14. Repeated measure ANOVA test followed by Tukey’s HSD test as well as Friedman test and Mann-Whitney U test were used for comparing results in three examined groups. Overall differences between the standard treatments and Theranekron® where they occurred were significant. Theranekron D2 and Theranekron D6 treated FMD infected cattle (dairy and fattening) and there were not any significant differences between important clinical signs of treated animals during different days of treatment with each homeopathic remedy. From the results of the present study, it can be concluded that Theranekron D2 and Theranekron D6 can treat naturally infected cattle with FMD successfully and there is no difference between two drugs in treating this disease.

Keywords: Foot-and-mouth disease, Theranekron, Tarantula cubensis, cattle