

Comparison of alfaxalone-medetomidine and tiletamine-zolazepam in rescued common palm civets (*Paradoxurus musangus*)

ABSTRACT

Forty rescued common palm civets were anesthetized. Twenty animals received intramuscular injections of alfaxalone 5 mg/kg and medetomidine 0.05 mg/kg (A-M group), whereas twenty animals received 5 mg/kg of tiletamine and zolazepam (T-Z group). The A-M group was reversed with atipamezole 0.25 mg/kg. There were no significant differences in the time from anesthetic injection to induction and intubation between the A-M and T-Z groups. The time from the injection of reversal in the A-M group and the time from cessation of isoflurane in the T-Z group to extubation, first response to recovery and ambulation were longer ($P<0.05$) in the T-Z group. The T-Z group recorded lower ($P<0.05$) rectal temperatures compared to the A-M group. This study showed that both drug combinations can be used effectively for the immobilization of civets. The A-M combination provided better anesthetic depth, but with higher incidence of bradycardia and hypoxemia. The recovery time was reduced significantly as atipamezole was used as a reversal agent in the A-M combination.

Keyword: Alfaxalone-medetomidine; Common palm civet; *Paradoxurus musangus*; Tiletamine-zolazepam