

Effects of epidural Ketamine, Xylazine and their combination on body temperature in acepromazine-sedated dogs

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Abstract Manuscript History: Received: 22 February 2014 Final Accepted: 15 March 2014 Published Online: April 2014 Key words: Epidural, Xylazine, Ketamine, Ketamine-xylazine, Hypothermia, Dogs

\*Corresponding Author Willy Mwangi Edwin A study was carried out to compare the effects of lumbosacral epidural ketamine, xylazine and their combination on body temperature in dogs. Fifteen healthy dogs were randomly assigned to three groups of five animals each. The first group was injected with 5% ketamine at 2.0 mg/kg body weight, the second with 2% xylazine at 0.6 mg/kg body weight and the third with the drug combination of ketamine and xylazine at 1.0 and 0.3 mg/kg respectively, in the same syringe. Changes in rectal temperature of the dogs were recorded over a 4-hour monitoring period. Significant (P