Diabetes Mellitus in Dogs

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Abstract—Diabetes mellitus is a chronic disease prevailing not only in humans but it also affect the dogs day-by-day. From last few years, number of dogs suffered from Diabetes mellitus has increased by three-fold. Diabetes mellitus in dog is characterized by hyperglycemia, glycosuria and weight loss. Different studies in veterinary hospitals and universities have revealed that only 50% survived the first60 days after diagnosis and went on to be successfully treated at home. Like humans, dog can also get effected by both type I and type II diabetes. Type I diabetes also known as insulin-dependent diabetes and glucose is the basic energy source. It is caused by destruction of insulin producing cells, which die as a result of inflammation of pancreas, known as pancreatitis. Dogs with this type of diabetes require insulin injections to stabilize blood sugar levels. Type-II diabetes is also known as insulin resistant diabetes and its production is impaired along with an inadequate response to the hormone. Although many chemicals but the two most common, streptozocin and alloxan are used for the treatment of diabetes in dogs. Management of diabetes in dog is based on insulin therapy, diet modification and exercise. Use of oral anti-diabetics drugs in dog is limited though experimental studies have shown frequent results. Some drugs commonly used are Glucobay which slow down the absorbtion of carbohydrates, Chromiumpicolinate which is an alternate form of Chromium that is absorbed better. Chromium which is a part of a molecule called chromodulin, which helps the hormone insulin perform it's actions in the body.

Keywords: Alloxan, glucobay, streptozocin, pancreatitis, chromodulin etc.