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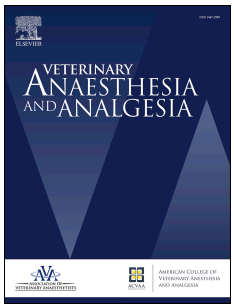

Evaluation of sedative and antinociceptive effects of dexmedetomidine, midazolam and dexmedetomidine-midazolam in tegus (*Salvator merianae*)

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RESEARCH PAPER

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Evaluation of sedative and antinociceptive effects of dexmedetomidine, midazolam and dexmedetomidine-midazolam in tegus (*Salvator merianae*)

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Abstract

Objective To evaluate dexmedetomidine, midazolam and dexmedetomidine-midazolam for sedation and antinociception in tegus.

Study design Prospective, crossover, randomized, blinded study.

Animals Six healthy tegus (*Salvator merianae*) weighing 1.6 ± 0.3 kg.

Methods Tegus were administered intramuscularly saline (0.5 mL; CON), dexmedetomidine (0.2 mg kg^{-1}; DX), midazolam (1 mg kg^{-1}; MZ) and dexmedetomidine-midazolam (same doses; DM). Heart rate (HR) and respiratory frequency (f_R) were recorded before treatment (baseline) and 15, 30 minutes, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12 and 24 hours after the treatments. Sedation scores were recorded according to resistance to manual restraint, posture and response to noxious stimulus, at baseline and 5, 10, 15, 30 minutes, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12 and 24 hours after the treatments. Antinociception was evaluated by measurement of latency of limb withdrawal