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Introduction of numerical scores for the evaluation of diarrhoea

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Diarrhoea is defined as an abnormal increase in the frequency, of passing watery stools for a minimum of two consecutive days. Generally, diarrhoea has been evaluated clinically as moderate or severe diarrhoea, diarrhoea associated with blood. The evaluation of diarrhoea is important in studies associated with occurrence and the treatment of diarrhoea. For research purposes, it is essential to have clear guide lines to evaluate the severity of diarrhoea by giving some numerical values, which can be repeatable. Healthy 30 dogs were used to establish the grading of stools by this method. Body weight of the subjects between 1 to 5 years (mean age 17.16 ± 3.14 months) of both sexes (12 males and 18 females) and in a study associated with doxycycline induced diarrhoea and the effect of fermented milk products as a preventive measure The score was given to the stools as follows. The stools with normal tubular shape, solid nature with normal frequency (0 grade), with unclear tubular shape, in between solid and liquid (with a stick can draw a line), slight increased in frequency per day by 1 or 2 (1 grade), appearing stools as a mass/ but cannot draw a line with a stick/ increase in frequency by 2 per day (grade 1.5), watery stools which does not appear as a mass, increased in frequency by 3 (grade 2) and finally stool draining along the floor, increased in frequency by 3 as grade 2.5.

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