

Towards a safer epidural anaesthesia for dogs

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A new method of anesthesia proven efficient in humans, has now been tested in animals. Two Spanish specialists in veterinary anesthesiology have successfully used the Baraka technique in dogs, proving that it is simpler and faster when trying to identify the epidural space. With this research, presented at an international level, the two experts seek to reduce the risk of traditional anaesthetic techniques in these animals.

Dr. José Ignacio Redondo works in the Department of Medicine and Veterinary Surgery at University CEU Cardenal Herrera and is professor in the Degree of Veterinary Sciences. He has teamed up with Fernando Martínez-Taboada from the Faculty of Veterinary Science at University of Sydney (Australia) to present the results of their research at the 12th World Congress of Veterinary Anaesthesiology, which brought together world experts on the field. Professor Redondo, from University CEU Cardenal Herrera, was the only representative of a Spanish university taking part in this Congress.

In their project, professors Redondo and Martínez-Taboada analyzed 44 cases in conscious dogs in which the running-drip method was used in both lateral and sternal decubitus positions. The Baraka epidural technique has proven to be highly efficient in both positions because, as the researchers point out, it is a "technique that allows anaesthesiologists to identify the epidural space more quickly."

Epidural anaesthesia was discovered in the 1920s by Fidel Pagés, a Spanish military doctor. These two Spanish researchers have now

become pioneers in the use of this alternative technique in [animals](#). As Redondo and Martínez-Taboada state, "The Baraka epidural technique is still not widely used in human anaesthesiology, although it has been published in the *British Journal of Anaesthesiology*. With our study, we have demonstrated that it is also applicable to [dogs](#) requiring this type of anaesthetic in a procedure. Furthermore, we set off a path for this [technique](#) to be used in other animal species."

More information: F Martinez-Taboada & JI Redondo. "Comparison between the hanging-drop technique and the running-drip method for identification of the epidural space in dogs." *British Journal of Anaesthesiology* [DOI: 10.13140/RG.2.1.2378.1600](https://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.1.2378.1600)

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