

Lecture summary

Claudia Iannucci

Dr. med. vet., DipACVECC, DipECVECC

Senior Faculty in Small Animal Emergency, Critical Care and Extracorporeal Blood

Purification Therapy

University of Zurich, Switzerland

Plasma exchange: Core concepts and current applications in Veterinary Medicine

The goal of this material is to provide a high-level, clinically oriented overview of total plasma exchange in veterinary medicine, grounded in established human medical principles. It aims to enhance understanding of TPE mechanisms, particularly antibody removal kinetics in immune-mediated diseases, and its role in selected intoxications. Emphasis is placed on informed clinical decision-making, procedural considerations, and risk–benefit assessment to support appropriate case selection and effective integration of TPE into advanced veterinary care.

Learning goals

1. Define total plasma exchange (TPE) and describe its fundamental principles.
2. Identify current and emerging applications of TPE in veterinary medicine.
3. Appreciate the limitations, risks, and future directions of TPE in veterinary clinical practice