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A FIBROSARCOMA IN THE GUM OF A BITCH

(With 4 Fig.)

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حالة ورم خبيث في اللثة في الفك العلوي لكلبة

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سجلت حالة ورم خبيث منتشره باللثة في الفك العلوي لكلبة وولف وقد تبين من الفحص الاكلينيكي وجود الورم وكذا تورم في الغدة الليمفاوية الموجودة بالفك العلوي وقد تم الفحص الاكلينيكي والرادايولوجي للحالة كما أخذت عينات وفحصت مستوباثولوجيا حيث تبين من الفحص أن الورم خبيث.

Findings: Radiological examination of the upper jaw showed large soft tissue density at the level of the upper jaw with loosening and dislocation of the teeth (Fig. 2).

P.M. Findings: At necropsy the upper jaw was completely covered with a large tumour mass where the teeth were very loose and dislocated. The soft structures of the upper jaw (gum, soft and hard palate) can not be distinguished as a result of malignancy. The regional lymph gland (maxillary lymph node) was intensively swollen (Fig. 3). Examination of the kidneys and lungs revealed necrotic foci over the kidney capsule along with the same foci in the lung tissue, indicating metastasis of the tumour.

SUMMARY

A 7 years old German Shepherd bitch belonging to the police station for dog breeding and training was affected with malignant tumour of the mouth cavity and interfering with mastication. The animal suffered exhaustion and died. clinical, radiological as well as histopathological findings were described. The condition was diagnosed as malignant fibrosarcoma.

Case history:

A 7 year old German Shepherd bitch belonging to police station for dog breeding and training was met with suffering from salivation mixed with blood, bad smelling from the mouth, the animal was reluctant to masticate. Food particles were seen falling down from the mouth during the feeding process.

Clinical examination of the animal revealed deformity of the fascial region (Fig.1). Examination of the mouth cavity showed a large tumour in the gum of the upper jaw with loosening of the teeth. The tumour was infiltrated all over the jaw where no definite structures of the upper jaw could be determined. There was also enlargement of the maxillary lymph gland. The condition of the animal was gradually deranged and the animal died after a period of exhaustion. The case was suspected to be malignant tumour.

Findings:

Radiological examination of the upper jaw showed large soft tissue density at the level of the upper jaw with loosening and dislocation of the teeth (Fig.2).

P.M. Findings:

At necropsy the upper jaw was completely covered with a large tumour mass where the teeth were very loose and dislocated. The soft structures of the upper jaw (gum, soft and hard palate) can not be distinguished as a result of malignancy. The regional lymph gland (maxillary lymph node) was intensively swollen (Fig.3) Examination of the kidneys and lungs revealed necrotic foci over the kidney capsule along with the same foci in the lung tissue, indicating metastasis of the tumour.

Histopathological Findings:

Showed a high degree of spindle-shaped cellularity, hyperchromatic nuclei with some mitotic figures denoting malignancy in addition to numerous congestions and haemorrhages.

Comment:

Oral neoplasms are common in dogs but less frequently among cats. The tumours are gradually observed in middle aged and older animals. Males are more often affected with fibrosarcoma than females. The most common location for canine fibrosarcoma is the maxillary gingiva. The condition is of increased incidence in large breed dogs especially in German Shepherds. Distant metastasis is uncommon but extensive local infiltration commonly occurs (HYOT *et al.*, 1984 and CAYWOOD 1987). In the reported case the patient was a female and there was also metastasis in the kidney capsule and lung tissue which resulted in death of the patient. Epulis or tumours of the gums have their origin not always from the gums, but they may originate from the periosteum or from the bone. The tumours may be malignant sarcomas or seldom carcinomas or benign as fibromas or papillomas. Fibrosarcomas are the most common type met within animals. The tumour in some cases grows rapidly that death occurs due to metastasis in some of the internal organs (FRANK, 1964; EL-GUINDY, 1979 and O'CONNOR, 1982). The importance of recording this case is that the tumour is relatively large size and infiltrating a massive area of the gums together with metastasis along kidneys and lungs.

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LEGENDS

- Fig. 1- Showing deformity of the face of a 7 Years old German Shepherd bitch.
- Fig. 2- X-ray film showing spreading of soft tissue density all over the upper jaw along with loosening and dislocation of the teeth.
- Fig. 3- Showing a tumour extending all over the upper jaw with loosening of the teeth along with swollen lymph node.
- Fig. 4- Showing a high degree of spindle-shaped cellularity, hyperchromatic nuclei with some mitotic figures in addition to numerous congestions and haemorrhages. (H and E. X = 400).



A FIBROSARCOMA, GUM & BITCH

