peritonitis but the owner declined further surgery and decided to have the dog euthanized. In the second dog an encapsulated surgical sponge was found adhered to the jejunum. Following release of the adhesions the mass was removed and the dog was discharged 2 days after surgery.

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

CT is a valuable method for the diagnosis of retained surgical sponges. The retained sponges usually have a characteristic CT appearance resembling granulomas and this may be helpful in preoperative diagnosis and prognosis of them.

Duplex and compressibility ultrasound examination in canine thoracic limb

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OBJECTIVES

To describe Duplex ultrasound (US) and compressibility technique for superficial vascular examination in dogs. To characterize ultrasonographic features of normal canine cephalic vein and compare them with veins of dogs with clinically diagnosed phlebitis and thrombophlebitis.

METHODS

Prospective, descriptive study was performed in dogs presented for radiotherapy at the Hospital for Small Animals. Thirty dogs with no evidence of vascular disease

and 17 dogs with positive Visual Infusion Phlebitis (VIP) score were recruited for the study. All US examinations were performed and interpreted by one observer who was blinded to the clinical score. Cephalic veins were assessed for multiple criteria and Spearman's rank correlation coefficient was calculated between the findings and time the intravenous catheter (IVC) was in place.

RESULTS

Successful and complete US examination was conducted in less than 5 minutes in all dogs. Scanning procedure was well tolerated in all patients. No abnormal US findings were detected in normal dogs group. All dogs with clinical phlebitis showed ultrasonographic changes (15/17 dogs increased wall thickness; 8/17 increased wall echogenicity; 7/17 disturbed Doppler flow; 10/17 incomplete compressibility; 10/17 presence of intraluminal thrombus). No strong correlation was found between the time the IVC was in place and US changes.

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

Duplex and compressibility ultrasonographic studies are feasible and safe techniques for evaluation of cephalic veins in dogs. Dogs with phlebitis show ultrasonographic changes therefore ultrasound is a diagnostic tool in cases of clinically suspected phlebitis and thrombophlebitis.

Retrospective evaluation of dietary management in glycaemic stabilisation and cataract formation in 152 dogs with diabetes mellitus

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OBJECTIVES

Cataract formation secondary to hyperglycaemia is common in dogs with insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus (IDDM). Dietary management should facilitate stabilisation of hyperglycaemia with insulin and thereby delay or prevent cataract formation. Objectives: Evaluation of effect of dietary management on glycaemic stabilisation and cataract formation in dogs with IDDM.

METHODS

Data for 152 diabetic dogs attending a UK Veterinary Hospital were obtained from clinical records and a questionnaire survey circulated. 100/152 (65.8%) developed cataracts after diagnosis of IDDM.

RESULTS

From point of diagnosis there was no significant difference in the time to stabilisation of glycaemia, in the

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