Poster presentations

Steroid responsive Meningitis Arteritis and concurrent Osteoma cutis in a dog

**James Barton, Daniela Alder,
Filippo De Bellis**

Southern Counties Veterinary Specialists, Ringwood, United Kingdom

OBJECTIVES

Osteoma cutis refers to heterotopic ossification within the skin. Whilst veterinary reports are few, a number of cases suggest an association of osteoma cutis in dogs with chronic glucocorticoid therapy. Steroid Responsive Meningitis Arteritis (SRMA) is an immune mediated inflammatory disorder of the leptomeninges and associated arteries. It is typically seen in young dogs between 6 and 18 months. Patients commonly present with cervical pain and pyrexia. Prednisolone monotherapy is the mainstay of treatment.

We report a case of osteoma cutis in a dog with a concurrent relapse of SRMA. We also report the use of cytarabine as a successful treatment for the SRMA.

METHODS

A one-year old female neutered Border Collie presented with cervical pain and pyrexia. Clinical examination also revealed multiple hard non-painful plaques beneath the skin between the shoulder blades and base of the tail. Wedge biopsies of the skin lesions and a cisternal CSF tap were taken for histopathology and cytology respectively.

RESULTS

Cytology of CSF revealed a neutrophilic pleocytosis consistent with SRMA. Histopathology showed the presence of calcified bone within the subcutis.

Given the association within the literature of osteoma cutis and steroid use, the dog was started on intravenous cytarabine infusions. As they were not causing any morbidity, the osteoma cutis lesions were monitored.

After 6 months of follow up the dog is in remission and showing no ill effects from her skin lesions.

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

To the best of our knowledge, we report the first case in the literature of cytarabine as an effective monotherapy for SRMA and only the fourth case in the literature of osteoma cutis.

Prevalence of neurological disorders in Cavalier King Charles Spaniels in neurology referral populations

**Katie Brown¹, Rowena Packer²,
Holger Volk³, Clare Rusbridge^{1,4}**

1 University of Surrey, Guildford, United Kingdom

2 The Royal Veterinary College, Hertfordshire, United Kingdom

3 The Royal Veterinary College, Hertfordshire, United Kingdom

4 Fitzpatrick Referrals, Godalming, United Kingdom

OBJECTIVES

This study aimed to determine the distribution of clinical presentations and the prevalence of neurological conditions in Cavalier King Charles Spaniels (CKCS). A

particular focus was placed upon establishing if syringomyelia was a prevalent disease in CKCS and a frequent diagnosis in referral populations.

METHODS

Records of 500 CKCS presenting to Fitzpatrick Referrals and the Royal Veterinary College neurology departments over a selected four-year period (September 2013–September 2017) were searched. Data was examined to determine the presenting clinical signs and final diagnosis made and analysis was carried out to establish the prevalence and frequency of these.

RESULTS

The most common clinical presentations of all neurological conditions were behavioural signs of pain (312 cases; 62.4%), spinal pain (238; 47.6%), phantom scratching (121; 24.2%) and gait abnormalities (90; 18.0%). The most common final diagnosis was syringomyelia (216 affected; 43.2% prevalence), orthopaedic conditions (74; 14.8%) and intervertebral disc disease (60; 12.0%). Other less frequently documented conditions included Chiari-like malformation associated pain (56; 11.2%), myoclonus (19; 3.8%), epilepsy (18; 3.6% and skin disease (12; 2.4%).

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