

MULTIPLE EPIDERMOID CYST IN LABRADOR DOG – A CASE REPORT

A.K. Srivastava¹; Sangeeta Srivastava²; Ashish Srivastava³ and Vineet Kumar⁴
Director¹, Surgeons^{2,4}, Physician³, Pet Aid Center, Indiranagar, Lucknow, U.P., India.

A Labrador Dog aged three years was presented at Pet Aid Center with the complaint of eruptions on the body for last two years. Palpation of superficial lymph node showed no abnormality. Physical examination revealed the presence of soft/hard swellings about 21 in number on the head, neck, thorax, back and tail measuring 0.4 - 1.5 cm in diameter. Total leukocyte count (11000/ μ l), differential leukocyte count (64% neutrophils, 35% lymphocytes and 5% eosinophils) and haemoglobin values (14.5 g/ dl) were non committal. Fine needle biopsy revealed presence of a sterile yellowish cheesy material. Skin lesions biopsy revealed a cyst with stratified squamous lining containing lamellar keratin with no evidence of inflammation or malignancy. Based on clinical and histopathological examination, the case was diagnosed as epidermoid cyst.

The dog was treated with levamisole hydrochloride @ 2.1 mg/kg sc once in 48 hr (5 injections) and minocycline @ 50 mg/kg twice daily orally for 10 days. The size of the cysts regressed during this period. Hence, the above treatment was repeated again for 10 days. Two cysts on the thoracic region regressed completely. The size of the remaining cysts reduced considerably to less than 0.5 cm diameter and there was no development of new cysts.

Epidermal cyst usually appears as solitary, firm, Intradermally, or occasionally

subcutaneous nodules less than 2 cm in diameter and their content have a semisolid, caseous or doughy consistency and the colour may be yellow white, light brown or grey. Epidermal cysts can sometimes be multiple and recurrent, suggesting a developmental basis for their formation (Muller *et al.*, 1989, Gross *et al.*, 1992). Lecouteur and Child (1995) reported epidermoid cysts in the brain and spinal cord of dogs which were thought to arise from entrapment and subsequent growth of primordial epithelial cells during closure of neural tube.

In the present study there was no appearance of new cysts in the ensuing period of 6 months. Thus, it is suggested that levamisole combined with minocycline can be used without surgical intervention in the management of epidermoid cyst.

References

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