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Fecaliths in a Scottish Terrier

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scribed the pastern area. Slight pressure caused a suppurative exudate to appear on the lateral aspect of this region. General examination revealed normal respiratory sounds.

Sodium sulfapyridine was administered, 60 Gm. in 500 cc of distilled water, at two day intervals. February 3, a noticeable decrease in sensitivity of the part was detected on palpation and locomotion seemed to be somewhat improved. It was thought that slight stenotic tones synchronous with inspiration could be heard near the cardiac area. Laboratory cultures revealed the presence of *Corynebacterium pyogenes*. February 4, the swelling had reduced in size and the pain was lessened. The suppurative process still remained. Dry rales could be detected over the cardiac region at this time. Sulfanilamide was administered per orum, twice daily for two weeks for a total dosage of 600 gr.

February 6, the patient was restrained on the operating table and the afflicted pastern area cleaned, shaved, defatted with ether and sterilized with strong tincture of iodine. An elliptical incision was made over the area of suppuration on the lateral side of the right rear pastern. A vertical pocket was located by blunt dissection which extended deeply and about 3 in. dorsal and posterior to the area of incision. This encapsulated abscess contained about 10 cc of suppurative exudate. After its removal, the pocket and entire wound were packed with equal parts of ferrous sulphate and mercurous chloride. Cotton packs were applied to suppress hemorrhage and wrapped securely with surgical guaze. The animal was then returned to the box stall.

The bandage was removed Feb. 9, and the leg soaked for 20 minutes in warm phenol-formalin solution. This soaking process was continued throughout the course of treatment. Rales were found to persist but varied in amplitude from day to day. The animal maintained a fairly good appetite but continued to lose condition and weight.

No change in temperature, pulse, or respiratory rates were observed. Rumen movements were normal and the feces were normal until Feb. 19, when a diarrhea was observed. The diarrhea was thought to be due to the prolonged sulphonamide therapy so the following day sulfanilamide was discontinued and two no. 10 capsules of tannic acid and two no. 10 capsules of Clovite were administered per orum. The Clovite was given in a divided dose.

The fluidity of the feces was considerably lessened by Feb. 22. The appearance of the leg and locomotion had returned to normal, but the owner was informed that the metastatic process in the lungs would probably not permit complete recovery. The animal was discharged Feb. 23, 1948.

M. A. Nelson, '49

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**Fecaliths in a Scottish Terrier.** A 6 year old male Scottish Terrier was admitted to Stange Memorial Clinic April 13, 1948, with a history of depression and difficult defecation. For the past 3 weeks small amounts of hemorrhagic feces had been excreted. The patient had suffered a fractured pelvis at the age of 2, and the resulting exostosis had reduced the internal diameter of the pelvis to approximately 1½ in. A radiograph demonstrated several large masses in the cecum, colon, and rectum. The largest mass, about 6 cm. in diameter, was located in the posterior colon, and 2 masses, each about 2 cm. in diameter were lodged in the cecum.

The patient was placed on the examination table, and the masses were located by digital palpation; they were of extremely hard consistency. The dog was moved to the bath sink to attempt removal of the fecaliths by massage and irrigation. A soapy enema was introduced into the posterior digestive tract by means of a colonic tube, and the large posterior mass was manipulated in an effort to reduce its size. A few small fragments of the mass were broken off, however it was too hard to reduce further without additional damage to the already irritated colon.

*Summer, 1948*
The patient was taken to the operating room, for the purpose of performing a laparotomy. Morphine sulfate 1 gr. and atropine sulfate 1/100 gr. were injected subcutaneously as a preoperative hypnotic, and the dog restrained on the operating table in the dorsal recumbent position. The abdominal area was shaved, defatted with ether, and sprayed with Phenyl-Merc, 1:1000. The preputial orifice was tied shut with silk suturing material. The patient was anesthetized with ether, a sterile shroud placed over the operative area, and sterile towels were clipped around the opening in the shroud. A 3 in. incision was made along the linea alba, just anterior to the prepuce. The peritoneum was picked up with a forceps, nicked with a scalpel, and the opening enlarged with a curved blunt pointed bistoury. Digital palpation located the large fecalith in the posterior colon; this portion of the intestine was drawn through the abdominal opening. Gentle massage loosened the fecalith and moved it caudad to the pelvic inlet.

The operator held the fecal mass at the pelvic inlet while his assistant introduced obstetrical forceps into the rectum. The coprolith was slowly broken down, and removed by cautious and careful manipulation. The second smaller fecalith was located and removed in the same manner. Further manipulation of the intestine revealed 2 small hard masses in the cecum. These were forced with some difficulty through the ileo-cecal orifice by digital manipulation. They were then worked back to the pelvic inlet, but they were small enough to be removed without crushing.

The viscera, although somewhat hypereemic, showed no evidence of severe inflammation and were replaced within the abdominal cavity. The peritoneum was closed with a simple continuous suture, using no.1 sterile catgut. The skin and the muscles were closed with 4 sterile silk sutures, and the skin brought into close approximation with a continuous catgut suture. The towels and shroud were removed, and the operative area thoroughly cleansed.

The patient was then discharged, and the owner advised to administer mineral oil orally for about 5 days, to lubricate and protect the intestinal mucosa.

A report from the owner 3 weeks after the operation indicated complete and uneventful recovery.

S. King, '49

It was discovered by Ransom in 1913, and announced in 1914, that Trichinae in pork could be destroyed by refrigeration. If the temperature is low enough, the Trichinae die in a comparatively short time.

Fig. 1. Fecaliths in a canine.

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