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Uterine Infection in a Chinchilla Caused by Pseudomonas Species

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Thrombosis of Posterior Vena Cava of a Bovine. A 5-year-old Hereford cow was admitted to Stange Memorial Clinic for treatment Nov. 13, 1954. The history stated that the animal had a severe epistaxis from the right nostril, which was believed to have come from the nasal cavity or sinus. Examination of the animal revealed the following: Temperature 100.8, extreme depression, anorexia, dyspnea, forced expiration and rales over the thorax. A blood sample showed the following: hemoglobin, 42 percent; total red blood cells, 4,865,000; total white blood cells, 17,000; stabs, 6,400; segments, 6,300; and lymphocytes 4,100.

On the following day the symptoms were the same. An examination with the metal detector over the thorax and abdomen was positive. Combiotic (10cc) was given intramuscularly and one liter of blood was given I.V. The following day the animal was dead.

The postmortem revealed the cause of death to be acute terminal dilatation of the right heart, which was caused by a lateral partially organized thrombus of the posterior vena cava. The thrombus measured approximately 10 cm. in length, and was found in the area of the liver. The lungs were showered with thousands of emboli, many of which were septic.

Don Wagner '56

Uterine Infection in a Chinchilla Caused by Pseudomonas Species.

So far is known this is the first time that Pseudomonas infection in the uterus of a Chinchilla has been reported. One reads of dental abnormalities, intestinal disorders and dystocia in the Chinchilla, but there is no recollection of having seen a written record describing uterine infections.

This 2-year-old Chinchilla became sexually mature and passed through several estrous cycles. Since she was confined in the same cage with a male, it is presumed she was bred at the time of estrum. During the autumn season this Chinchilla failed to acquire a prime coat. She chewed off patches of hair over her entire body. The bristles of the tail were so short that it looked like a rat's tail. One could usually find loose hairs on the floor of the cage. Her hair coat was thin.

Normally the vulva of the Chinchilla is obscure during diestrus. At estrum the vulva becomes patent and mucus flows from the transverse opening. Estrum persists for 10-14 days unless copulation occurs. This may reduce estrum to 3 or 4 days duration.

The vulva of this Chinchilla remained patent. There was a constant, milky discharge from the vulva. The condition did not change — never getting any worse nor showing any improvement.

Skin scrapings were negative. The teeth were normal. A blood analysis was made. The hemoglobin value was 63 percent. There were 7,100,000 erythrocytes and 11,920 leukocytes. The differential white cell count showed 500 eosinophils, 3300 stabs, 3100 segments, 200 monocytes and 4800 lymphocytes.

Since the reproductive ability of the animal was lost and the pelt had no monetary value, it was decided to necropsy the Chinchilla.

The wall of the uterus was thickened. There was a mucopurulent exudate in the lumen. Pseudomonas sp. was cultured from the uterus. No other pathology was reported.

The infection did not spread to other Chinchillas in the herd.

—George Firkins, '55

Habronemiasis of the Penis. On August 21, 1954, a horse was admitted to the Stange Memorial Clinic showing a granulamatous swelling on the penis.

A biopsy was taken following admis-