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Shoulder Atrophy (Sweeny) in a Bovine

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Parke-Davis) three times daily, by oral administration, was initiated. On the following day the temperature was 101.4°F, and the appetite had returned. This therapy was continued for one week. Throughout this period gross examination revealed normal urine. Laboratory examination of the urine on February 12 was negative for occult blood, with a specific gravity of 1.032. On the following day the bowels and appetite were normal and Geriodiet (Atlas Canine Products) was prescribed. The patient's condition remained favorable until released on February 23, 1960.

The tissue examined histologically revealed an infected papilloma containing small cysts in the epithelium. Microscopically, such tumors are composed of numerous papillae, each with a central stalk of delicate vascular connective tissue, which is covered by layers of transitional epithelium. There was also evidence of a concurrent purulent cystitis.

Approximately two months after the operation, the client reported no evidence of hematuria or urinary incontinence in the dog. Recurrence in this case seems improbable because of the favorable postoperative history and the benign nature of the tumor. Recurrence of such papillomas, and a tendency to become malignant have been reported as frequent unfavorable sequelae by Bloom.

Francis J. Judge '61

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Shoulder Atrophy (Sweeney) In a Bovine. On February 2, 1960, a one and one-half-year-old registered Angus bull was admitted to Stange Memorial Clinic. The history revealed that the animal seemed to drag the right foreleg. The clinical examination confirmed the dragging of the leg and a pronounced shoulder lameness was noticed. Atrophy of the supraspinatus and infraspinatus muscles was evident.

A diagnosis of shoulder atrophy (Sweeney) was made. This condition, which is due to injury and/or atrophy of the suprascapular nerve, is quite rare in the bovine. This is probably because the suprascapular nerve lies deeper and is less vulnerable to injury than in the horse. In the horse the suprascapular nerve lies quite superficially as it passes around the anterior border of the scapula at its distal fourth. The direct relation of this nerve to the scapula renders it more liable to injury and accounts for the more common affliction of the horse with this condition.

The owner was given a poor prognosis for complete correction, but he asked that treatment be attempted. The condition involves an apparent lack of innervation which causes muscle atrophy, and the muscle atrophy allows the humerus to pull away from the scapula thus loosening the scapula-humeral articulation. It was hoped a counterirritant injected into the atrophied muscles would cause inflammation and scar formation which might tighten up the joint as well as the possibility of stimulating nerve regeneration.

The area over the right scapula was clipped, shaved, washed with soap, and antiseptic applied. Then 6 cc. of a counterirritant (one part chloroform, one part turpentine, and two parts vegetable oil) was injected intramuscularly into the atrophied muscles. This was injected in ½ cc. amounts about two and one-half inches apart and in three lines. The first line was placed anterior to the scapular spine, and the second two were placed about three inches apart posterior to the scapular spine.
The counterirritant caused a moderate inflammation which lasted several days. It was intended that the animal should go home for prolonged stall rest since it might take several months before it would be known if the treatment helped the condition. Because of inclement weather the owner was unable to return to get the animal for several weeks, and two more injections were made at two-week intervals before the owner returned for it. The second injection was made using one part chloroform and one part turpentine. The third injection was made using Hypodermic, (Haver-Lockhart.)

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References:

Esophageal Dilatation. A review of the basic embryology concerning the fate of the aortic arches is described herein. Briefly, the first two pair appear and disappear early and are of no consequence. The third pair remain as the common carotid arteries. The fourth pair persist as different structures. The left arch becomes the arch of the aorta, and the right arch becomes the innominate artery. The fifth pair appear briefly then degenerate. The sixth develop into the pulmonary artery on the right side and the left becomes the ductus arteriosus until birth. When breathing begins muscular contraction closes the ductus arteriosus. The resulting structure is the ligamentum arteriosum.

A two and one half month male miniature poodle was admitted to the Stange Memorial Clinic on January 22, 1960. This puppy was reported to have been ill for the last four weeks, and had a history of vomiting following eating. The other puppies in the litter were reportedly in good health. The condition was first noted after the pup was weaned and put on a solid food diet.

Examination revealed a temperature of 99.0°F. Very coarse dry rales were heard when the lungs were auscultated. The pulse was 120 per minute. The animal's general condition was quite poor, with the hair coat being thin and rough and general body fat being absent. The puppy was quite depressed, and did not wish to move. The mucous membranes were quite pale in color. Some serous discharge was noted from the eyes and also from the nostrils, especially the left one. Palpation of the neck and throat region was negative.

On the following day the puppy was even more depressed. A test meal of warm Kings Fare* (two oz.) and water were given and the animal observed for sign of vomition. There was no vomition during the first hour post feeding. It was then decided to administer a liquid suspension of barium sulfate and immediately radiograph the puppy in lateral recumbency. Since a congenital upper digestive tract abnormality was suspected, a tentative diagnosis of esophageal dilatation due to aortic arch abnormalities was made.

The animal vomited nearly all the barium sulfate suspension shortly after the radiogram was taken. The radiogram revealed Jabot Esophageal Diverticulum of

Radiograph of an Esophageal Dilatation in a Miniature Poodle.

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* Hygrade Food Products

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