1942

Two Cases of Sunstroke in Dogs

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Recommended Citation

Graham, J. A. (1942) "Two Cases of Sunstroke in Dogs," Iowa State University Veterinarian: Vol. 4 : Iss. 2 , Article 10.
Available at: https://lib.dr.iastate.edu/iowastate_veterinarian/vol4/iss2/10

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1 Dermoid Cyst. A male dog, one year old, was brought to the clinic on March 19, 1941. The history received was that the dog had a slight discharge from its left eye, and that the owner had recently cut some hair that was protruding between the eyelids.

The eyes were examined and a small dermoid cyst was present on the cornea and sclera. The cyst was round in shape, three-eighths of an inch in diameter, one-eighth of an inch thick and greyish yellow in color. A tuft of coarse hair grew from its center. This cystic tumor was congenital and had caused no trouble until the owner had cut off the coarse hairs. The short stubs of hair produced intense irritation to the conjunctiva. The conjunctivitis resulted in the slight discharge.

It was decided to attempt removal of the dermoid cyst without injuring the eye. The dog was given one-half grain morphine and one one-hundredth grain of atropine sulfate subcutaneously. Anesthesia was completed with ether. The eyelids were held apart by an assistant. A forceps was placed upon the cyst and by careful dissection, it was removed from the cornea and sclera. Only a thin layer of connective tissue remained upon the surface of the eye. As there was no history to indicate immunity to canine distemper, 25 cc. of homologous anti-canine distemper serum was injected subcutaneously in the flank region to establish temporary immunity, and the dog was placed in its kennel.

The following day a purulent discharge was observed. Merthiolate ointment, 1:3000, was put in the eye. On the second day the discharge had ceased and the dog was discharged from the clinic on the third day.

The thin layer of connective tissue on the cornea and sclera had produced a slight opacity which will probably remain throughout the life of the animal. However, the surface of the opaque area was very smooth and irritation of the conjunctiva is improbable. —A. C. Gathman, '42

2 Two Cases of Sunstroke in Dogs. Late one hot afternoon, two dogs were presented at the hospital of Dr. M. C. Hawn of Fargo, N. Dak., to receive treatment for "fits." One dog was a four year old male fox terrier with no history of any previous disease. The owner stated that the dog had been tied in the sun all morning.

The animal exhibited rather marked motor irritation. He shook so violently that he could hardly stand or walk. Aside from the persistent muscular twitching, he showed no abnormality. His temperature was not elevated, his
mentality was perfectly clear, and his diet had not been varied for several months.

The other dog was a female cocker spaniel, two years old, with practically the same history. While no motor irritant was evident, a pronounced hyperesthesia was apparent. The dog reacted as though she had received an overdose of strychnine. Any loud noise would cause her to jump and become instantly alert.

The condition in these two cases was diagnosed as sunstroke, the latter quite mild, and a sedative dose of phenobarbital sodium administered per os.

Subsequent report was that symptoms in both cases disappeared and never recurred.

—J. A. Graham, '42

3 Mandibular Osteoma in the Horse.

On Feb. 3, 1942, a two year old Belgian colt was brought to the Stange Memorial Clinic for treatment. Examination of the colt revealed a large osseous growth on the left medial, mental surface of the mandible.

The history of this case is of special interest. When the colt was weaned it was forcibly restrained and tore its lower lip on the manger. The wound was treated and sutured. It was healing nicely until it was again torn open by the colt. The wound was not sutured a second time. A period of nine months elapsed before the animal was received by the Veterinary Clinic; during this time the tumorous growth attained its large development. This is one of the few cases in which a definite history of trauma accompanies a tumor formation.

The day following presentation the colt was given an ounce and a half of chloral hydrate by means of a stomach tube, and placed on the operating table. The operative area was cleaned and the margins of the growth were infiltrated with a two per cent procaine solution. The incision was made through the skin and soft structures down to the bone, and an attempt was made to remove the tumor from the mandible with a chisel. However, the blood supply to the part was so great and the osseous tissue such that hemorrhage could not be controlled and the operation was discontinued. The animal was then destroyed by means of an electric current.

On post-mortem examination, the third incisor on the left side showed a medial displacement. The structure of the tooth was changed, the enamel being leather-like in consistency, while the dentine resembled thick jelly.

—R. Rasmussen, '42

4 Prolapsed Uterus in a Cow.

On July 22, 1941, a three year old purebred Holstein cow had an apparently normal calving. Following parturition, the cow was allowed to drink approximately five gallons of warm water, and for a period of three hours was left unnoticed.

When the cow was again looked at, a large portion of the uterus was noticed to be protruding. The protruding portion was wrapped in a clean sheet and the local veterinarian was called.

The cow had cleaned, and about 22 to 24 inches of the uterus was protruding when the veterinarian arrived. He removed the sheet and rubbed about a quart of sugar on the surface of the uterus, which was then manually pushed back into its normal position. The sugar acts in two possible ways. First it stimulates the mucous glands in the wall of the uterus to secrete, and second, the liquid contents of the uterus are hypertonic due to the presence of the sugar, resulting in a passage of fluid into the lumen of the uterus.