Prostatitis in the dog

James Arnold
Iowa State College

Follow this and additional works at: https://lib.dr.iastate.edu/iowastate_veterinarian
Part of the Small or Companion Animal Medicine Commons, and the Veterinary Physiology Commons

Recommended Citation
Arnold, James (1944) "Prostatitis in the dog," Iowa State University Veterinarian: Vol. 7 : Iss. 2 , Article 11.
Available at: https://lib.dr.iastate.edu/iowastate_veterinarian/vol7/iss2/11

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at Iowa State University Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Iowa State University Veterinarian by an authorized editor of Iowa State University Digital Repository. For more information, please contact digirep@iastate.edu.
Fractured Atlas in a Horse. The position and structure of the atlas with relation to the brain stem and spinal cord is such that its injury may readily produce symptoms of a severe central nervous disorder.

The case of interest was a gray 13-year-old gelding which was brought to the Stange Memorial Clinic June 9, 1944. While being trucked to the clinic to have a foot examined, the animal's head struck a low bridge. The horse was riding with his head facing opposite the direction of travel, so he was struck in the region of the atlanto-occipital articulation. Upon arrival at the clinic a unilateral paralysis had been established. The region of the atlas was severely bruised on the right side causing considerable swelling and some hemorrhage. A tentative diagnosis of fracture or severe injury to the atlas was made.

Post Mortem

During the night, the patient became delirious, leading to considerable automutilation, especially about the region of the head. The paralysis had become bilateral making it impossible for the animal to rise. Euthanasia was indicated and employed to prevent further automutilation.

A post-mortem examination proved the cervical region to be swollen from edema and hemorrhage. About 500 cc. of blood were removed from a 1 cm. opening inflicted in the skin over the right wing of the atlas. There was a hemorrhagic infiltration of all the soft tissues of the region.

There was a comminuted transverse fracture of the anterior dorsal arch and right wing of the atlas. The spinal canal and arachnoid space of the spinal cord was filled with blood. The fracture of the atlas together with the initial edema and hemorrhage caused the unilateral paralysis exhibited when the patient first arrived at the clinic. As the hemorrhage surrounded the cord, the paralysis had become bilateral.

A brain involvement was ruled out in the clinical diagnosis as the cause of the paralysis because injury to the brain has its effect reflected on the side of the body opposite the injury. Hence, the injury on the right side would have caused the unilateral paralysis to be registered on the left side.

—L. E. Bartelt, ’45

Prostatitis in the Dog. Prostatitis is an inflammation of the prostate gland. This disease when found in the dog is nearly always of a subacute or chronic type.
The symptoms of prostatitis usually develop gradually. Painful defecation and micturation appear during the early stages of the disease. The reason for these symptoms is the enlargement of the prostate gland. Although frequent attempts at micturation will be evident, only small quantities of urine will be voided. There may also be complete suppression of the urine. The bladder can be drained upon passage of a catheter. If severe swelling is present it may not be possible to pass the catheter. If this should happen, a trochar could be introduced into the bladder through the abdominal wall. The gland may be palpated per rectum with the gloved index finger. The temperature of the individual is more or less irregular.

**A Specific Case**

On August 8, 1944, a five-year-old male Doberman Pinscher dog was brought to the Stange Memorial Clinic. It was reported that the dog had difficulty in urination and in defecation and castor oil was administered to alleviate the latter. He had been drooling saliva and was depressed. He also was beginning to show emaciation.

Clinical examination showed that the prostate gland was greatly enlarged, which would explain the bladder being engorged with urine.

The next morning the dog had a diarrhea which probably resulted from the castor oil given by the owner. The dog was catheterized and a urine analysis was run. This analysis was found not to have any abnormal findings except the specific gravity of 1.015, which is slightly low.

On the fourth day the dog was still unable to micturate. After catheterization was finished, the gland was palpated per rectum and was found not to have receded materially. Neoprontosil therapy consisting of 15 cc. injected intramuscularly in the gluteal region was instigated and continued for the next eight days.

The dog showed a temperature of 105.4° F. on the seventh day. The dog was catheterized again, but only a small amount of urine was obtained. This indicated that the dog had been urinating voluntarily. By means of rectal palpation the swelling of the prostate gland was found to be receding, but was still painful.

On the tenth day the temperature had receded to 102.0° F. The dog's general condition was improved to such an extent that he was exercised. He was observed for the next several days and found to be progressing normally and was discharged on the first of September.

The dog was again entered into the clinic on September 15. Upon examination, he was found to be suffering from a bilateral pneumonia. The condition was such that euthanasia was indicated.

Autopsy the following morning revealed extensive pneumonia which involved all lobes of the lungs. The heart was dilated. An orchitis was present with one testicle showing abscess formation. The prostate gland, once enlarged, was now normal in size.