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Fibrosarcoma in a Shetland Colt

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The patient was treated with a total of 7 gm. of terramycin intravenously: 3 gm. on October 25, and 2 gm. each on the following two days. Two grams of chloromycetin was given intravenously on October 29. There was no marked improvement following the administration of these antibiotics and the dyspnea became more pronounced. The patient became very enaciated and depressed. The owner was notified of the animal's condition and permission was granted to have the animal destroyed.

Autopsy revealed chronic bilateral paralaryngeal abscesses (each about 5 x 2 x 2 cm.) located beneath the mucosa covering the thyroid cartilages; each abscess had a fistulous opening into the larynx. The pus was white, thin, gaseous and malodorous. Culturing revealed colonies of Corynebacterium pyogenes. The probable reason that the antibiotics were not effective in this case was because the abscesses were well established before therapy began.

Paul Brocksmith, '54

Fibrosarcoma in a Shetland Colt.

On Nov. 19, 1952, a six-month-old Shetland female colt was admitted to Stange Memorial Clinic with an enlarged, edematous, and hemorrhagic growth on its jaw. The only history available was that the owner had noticed its appearance about a month previous. The patient was quite active and alert. The growth did not hinder mastication nor affect the patient's appetite. Temperature, pulse, respiration, and bowel movements were within normal limits.

A biopsy was performed and the tissue taken to the clinical laboratory. The laboratory diagnosis was an inflamed, edematous, hemorrhagic granulation tissue with islands of fibrosarcoma.

Removal of the neoplasm was decided upon. The patient was restrained on an operating table and an area around the growth was clipped and shaved. The base of the pedunculated tumor was anesthetized by infiltrating with 20 cc. of 2 percent procaine. The growth was then removed by electro-cautery at slightly deeper than skin level. It was not desirable to go deeper because of the danger to other structures in the area and to prevent the possibility of creating a permanent fistula in the oral cavity. The wound healed with a hard eschar and a depression approximately one inch in diameter.

This case is interesting because of the extremely young age at which this colt developed a malignant connective tissue growth and the surprisingly rapid recovery. The patient was discharged on December 2, eight days after removal of the tumor.

Howard Bayles, '54

Abortion Due to Fungi. On Sept. 25, 1952, a fetus was presented to the Iowa State Diagnostic Laboratory for examination of a possible cause of the abortion. The fetus was from a Holstein cow that was about seven and one half months along in her gestation period. This was the second abortion to occur under similar circumstances within ten days.

Following the second abortion, all cattle in the herd were tested for brucellosis and all were negative.

The first fetus to be aborted was also presented for examination but bacteriological cultures did not reveal any probable cause. However, a culture from the stomach of the second fetus produced a fungus growth identified by the laboratory here as Aspergillus fumigatus. This diagnosis was later confirmed by the federal laboratory at Chamberlee, Georgia.

In both cases of abortion, it was necessary to remove the placenta manually. Routine methods were used for this operation and sulfa-urea tablets were placed in the uterus. Both cows made uneventful recoveries and at this writing, both have been re-bred. One appears safely settled.