Coxa Plana (Legg-Perthes Disease)

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The owner was interested in correction of the condition to allow further use of the animal for breeding purposes. A blunt bistoury was introduced into the preputial diverticulum and the anterior ledge of the diverticulum was incised; further cutting was done with a suture scissors. Upon completion of the operation, the glans penis passed through the diverticulum and out the prepuce without the preputial diverticulum offering resistance. Sulfathiazole cream (5 percent) was instilled into the diverticulum and the patient released the same day.

A report was received from the owner 2 months following the operation stating the animal had no further trouble protruding the penis and had successfully bred 18 sows. Four sows bred prior to the operation had farrowed. The owner considers the operation a success. It is not known whether or not this defect is heritable.

John B. Mulder, '56

Coxa Plana (Legg-Perthes Disease). On Oct. 20, 1954, a 6-month-old male Labrador was referred to the Stange Memorial Clinic. The history was an intermittent luxation occurring in the hip joints for the past 3 weeks.

Physical examination revealed crepitation in each of the coxofemoral articulations. By manipulation the heads of the femurs could be dislocated from their sockets with great ease and little evidence of pain. The joints, in their natural position, were luxated.

A tentative diagnosis of coxa plana was made. The diagnosis was confirmed on the following day by a dorso-ventral radiograph of the pelvic area. The radiograph showed bilateral flattening of the heads of the femurs. The owner was given a guarded prognosis and the patient discharged on Oct. 21, 1954. Decalbion-Forte® was dispensed as supportive therapy.

A phone call to the owner on Feb. 3, 1955, indicated the dog had made an apparent recovery.

The etiology of this disease remains vague. Schnelle reports trauma, inflammation, rickets, unrecognized congenital subluxation, endocrine disorders, shallow acetabulums, familial, and vascular impediments have all been incriminated. Dogs with straight hind legs and little stiffe angulation are believed to be more susceptible to this condition. The condition is most frequently seen in dogs 3 to 10 months of age.

Frank Hughes, '55

Impaction of the Small Colon in a Shetland Pony. On Oct. 20, 1954, a 6-month-old Shetland pony was admitted to Stange Memorial Clinic. The history revealed that the animal had been treated for impaction on October 18. Oil and enemas were given by the local practicing veterinarian to no avail. Therefore, a laparotomy was decided upon.

General anesthesia was administered by means of intravenous pentobarbital sodium with an initial dose of 12 cc. The animal was restrained on the operating table in right lateral recumbency and the operative field (left flank and paralumbar fossa area) prepared by clipping, shaving, washing thoroughly, defatting with ether, and disinfecting with tincture of iodine.