Diagnostic Exercise

From The Davis-Thompson Foundation*
Case #: 106   Month: October   Year: 2018


Clinical History: Adult captive held male koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*) of unknown age. This koala has been living with several other koalas in an enclosure in a zoological facility in North Queensland, Australia. The attending veterinarian removed what appeared to be a necrotic and infected lymph node from the right inguinal region in July 2016. After surgery, the right leg became swollen and edematous and pale yellow thick fluid interpreted as pus was drained from the swelling at that site. The animal was treated with antibiotics but showed minimal response. In August, additional surgery was performed to remove what appeared to be an encapsulated necrotic tissue mass (lymph node – Figure 1). Both tissue samples (from the original and subsequent surgery) were submitted for histopathological evaluation and the referring clinician’s concern was to rule out tuberculosis.

Microscopic Findings:

![Koala lymph node - Figure 1 (hematoxylin and eosin, H&E)](image_url)

Follow up Questions: Morphologic diagnosis, useful special stain(s), disease.
The Diagnostic Exercises are an initiative of the Latin Comparative Pathology Group (LCPG), the Latin American subdivision of The Davis-Thompson Foundation. These exercises are contributed by members and non-members from any country of residence. Consider submitting an exercise! A final document containing this material with answers and a brief discussion will be posted on the CL Davis website (http://www.cldavis.org/diagnostic_exercises.html).

**Editor-in-chief:** Vinicius Carreira  
**Associate Editor for this Diagnostic Exercise:** Rachel Allavena