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Clinical History: 13-year-old Quarter Horse mare found death with no prior detected clinical signs. The horse, was on native pasture, had received hay for the past 4 weeks and was the only animal affected in a group of 11.

Laboratory Findings: No premortem laboratory workup available.

Necropsy Findings: Please see gross images below (all three gross images correspond to the same segment of proximal jejunum). Other findings (not shown) included a 22 cm linear transmural rupture of the gastric wall along the grater curvature of the stomach with associated regional edema and hemorrhage (premortem rupture). The abdominal cavity was distended by and filled with approximately 25 liters of brown turbid fluid containing feed material and there was associated multifocally extensive intestinal serosal congestion and fibrin exudation (acute peritonitis secondary to premortem gastric rupture).
Gross images:

Fig. 1. Jejunum (left side of the photo is distal respect of the right side of the photo).
Fig. 2. Jejunum (same segment and orientation as in Figs. 1 and 3).

Fig. 3. Jejunum (same segment and orientation as in Figs. 1 and 2 after formalin fixation).

Follow-up questions:

1- Provide a complete description of the gross findings (one description for all three images).

2- What primary basic pathological process/es might be going on in the intestinal wall?

3- What is your morphologic diagnosis and etiologic diagnosis after looking at the microscopic images below? (Figs. 4-7, all images were taken from the same slide).
Microscopic images

Fig. 4. Jejunum, HE, 20x (subgross).

Fig. 5. Jejunum, HE. (A) 40x.
Fig. 6. Jejunum, HE, 400x. (A) Close up of Fig. 5 B. (B)

Fig. 7. Jejunum, HE, 200x.

Please send your comments/questions to the whole LCPG list by hitting “reply to all”.

A final document containing this material with answers and a brief discussion will be posted on the C. L. Davis website by the end of the current month (http://www.cldavis.org/lcpg_english.html).