Contributor: Panayiotis Loukopoulos1 DVM, PGDipVSt, PhD; Serena Brenner2 DVM; Santiago S. Diab1 DVM, DACVP; Jorge P. Garcia1 DVM; Francisco A. Uza1 DVM, MVSc, PhD, DACVP. 1California Animal Health and Food Safety laboratory, San Bernardino branch, University of California Davis, 2Lindsay Wildlife Museum, Walnut Creek, California.

Clinical History: A 20 year old, 1.70 kg, 1.88 cm long, female Pacific gopher snake (Pituophis catenifer) was presented to the California Animal Health and Food Safety laboratory (CAHFS) in San Bernardino for a full diagnostic work-up. The snake had been housed at a non–for-profit museum in California where it was occasionally handled by the public. It had a history of recurrent mid-coelomic swelling. Cryptosporidia were detected in the feces on repeated testing and it was euthanized due to epizootic concerns and concerns for the other animals in the collection.

Necropsy Findings: Please see the image below.
Follow-up questions: Macroscopic description, morphologic diagnosis, etiologic diagnosis, etiology, likely histologic findings.

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).