



Latin Comparative Pathology Group

The Latin Subdivision of the CL Davis Foundation

Diagnostic Exercise

Case #: 63 Month: December Year: 2015

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Clinical History: A 13-year-old intact female Pit Bull presented with a 2-week history of severe weakness, anorexia and cough. The owner reported that the dog had been presenting dyspnea for at least six months prior to presentation. On clinical exam, the dog was obese and severely prostrated.

Necropsy Findings: On necropsy, the coronary arteries were enlarged and less pliable than normal, with a thick, firm, irregular wall. The heart was severely enlarged and had moderate thickening of the left ventricular wall. The left atrioventricular (mitral) valve was mildly thickened, firm and shiny (interpreted as endocardiosis). Multiple raised, round, purple areas (0.5- 1 cm) were seen throughout the capsular surface of the spleen. On cut surface, these areas were soft. The lungs were dark-red and expanded by marked amounts of fluid (pulmonary edema). Both kidneys had multiple white foci on the cortex. Both thyroid glands were severely decreased in size (right: 0.2 x 0.3 cm; left: 0.2 x 0.4 cm).



Follow-up questions: 1) Name the disease and the most probable predisposing systemic condition in this case; 2) Name the most severely affected organs in dogs with this disease; 3) Name a predisposed breed in dogs; 4) What is the main histologic difference between affected vessels of humans and dogs?

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).