

## Pulmonary Abscesses Associated with *Staphylococcus Aureus* in a Bottle-Nosed Dolphin

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Pulmonary abscesses associated with *Staphylococcus (S.) aureus* is reported in a 16-year-old female bottle-nosed dolphin (*Tursiops gilli*). The dolphin showed severe depression, anorexia, and slow movement for one week. Grossly, the rope about 2 m in length, 1 cm in diameter was tied around the laryngeal cartilage in the esophagus. Yellowish brown creamy materials were in the tracheal lumen. Tan to purple red consolidation and diffuse pleuritis were presented in the entire lung. Numerous yellowish green discrete or confluent nodules, 0.2 to 3 cm in diameter were scattered on the cut surface of lung. These nodules contained thick or opaque creamy materials with rancid odor. Histologically, multifocal confluent abscesses were occupied in the pulmonary parenchyma. Massive neutrophils, mononuclear cells, fibrins, and cellular debris were presented in bronchi, bronchiole, and alveolar lumens. Diffuse parakeratosis in the esophagus and multifocal hepatitis were also observed. Gram-positive cocci were often found in the lung lesions. *S. aureus* was isolated from the lung lesion and fibrinous materials of thoracic cavity. This is a first report for multifocal pulmonary abscess associated with *S. aureus* in a bottle-nosed dolphin in Korea.

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