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Peritonitis Associated with Streptococcus Equi Subsp. Zooepidemicus

in a Thoroughbred Horse

Jung-Joon Cho, Sang-Chul Kang, Hyoung-Seok Yang,

Won-Geun Son, Jong-Hee Bae and Jae-Hoon Kim

Department of Veterinary Medicine, College of Agriculture and Life Scinece.,

Cheju National University, Jeju, Korea

Fibrinopurulent peritonitis associated with Streptococcus (S.) equi subsp. zooepidemicus is

reported in a 1-year-old female thoroughbred horse. The horse died after showing 5-day

history of severe abdominal distention, abdominal breathing, hyperthermia, anorexia, and loss

of intestinal sound. At necropsy, several liters of turbid yellowish green fluid were seen in the

abdominal cavity. Yellowish creamy and fibrinous or bloody materials were presented on the

serosa of various abdominal organs that were intensively adhered with each other, Spleen and

mesenteric lymph node were remarkably enlarged. Affected lobes of the lung showed severe

congestion and doughy consistency. Histologically, the lung showed diffuse pulmonary

congestion and edema. Severe diffuse fibrinopurulent peritonitis with bacterial colonies and

adjacent fibrosis were showed in the serosa of various abdominal organs such as liver, spleen,

stomach, and intestine. And multifocal abscess pouch were presented in the granumation

tissue of abdominal viscera. Gram-positive cocci were often associated with the peritonitis. S.

equi subsp. zooepidemicus was isolated from the peritoneal swab and other abdominal organs.

Corresponding author: Jae-Hoon Kim (064-754-3387, E-mail: kimjhoon@cheju.ac.kr)

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