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[Session II] #5

**Canine Hepatozoonosis in the
Philippines: A Report of 4 Cases**

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Canine hepatozoonosis is a hemoprotozoan disease due to *Hepatozoon canis*. The disease is transmitted through the ingestion of an infected common brown dog tick, *Rhipicephalus sanguineus*. In the Philippines, it was first reported by Carlos *et al.* in 1971 when the organism was demonstrated in monocytes and neutrophils during routine blood smear examination of eight dogs.

For public health reasons, stray dogs are captured and impounded by the local government. At the Manila City Pound in Metro Manila, about 100 dogs are captured and impounded every week. Dogs unclaimed were euthanized. A preliminary survey conducted to determine the presence of blood parasites in 100 stray dogs at this Pound revealed 34 % were positive. Of the positive dogs, 24% had *Hepatozoon canis*, 8% had microfilariasis and 2% had mixed infection of *Hepatozoon canis* and microfilariasis.

Four cases of *Hepatozoon canis* infection in stray dogs impounded at the Manila City Pound are herein presented. All cases were mongrel dogs weighing between 7-10 kg.; two were males and two were females. Prior to death, the animals were observed to be weak, lethargic and depressed. On blood smear examination, only two dogs demonstrated gametocytes in neutrophils. Limited laboratory findings revealed anemia, leucopenia, and adequate platelets. Grossly, two dogs, male and female, had subcutaneous hemorrhagic patches in the ventral abdomen and legs; petechial to ecchymotic hemorrhages and hematomas in the lungs; friable and congested liver; ecchymotic to diffuse hemorrhages in the intestinal mucosa; hemorrhagic exudate in the intestinal lumen; round flabby hearts with petechial to ecchymotic hemorrhages, and petechial to ecchymotic hemorrhages in the kidneys. The other two dogs did not show severe hemorrhagic lesions. Tissue forms of *Hepatozoon canis* were seen in the lung, liver and spleen but not in all cases. Histopathologic lesions included cutaneous and pulmonary hemorrhages, interstitial pneumonia, vasculitis and perivasculitis in the lung, liver and kidney with predominantly lymphoplasmacytic cell infiltrates.

[Session II] #6

**Pathological Features of Lead
Poisoning in Swans in Japan**

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