

Heartworm removal in dogs with severe heart worm disease using non-surgical interventional method

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Introduction: Canine heartworm disease (HWD) is often life-threatening in case of severe infestation. HWD is often associated with complications including eosinophilic pneumonia, glomerulonephritis, right-side heart failure and caval syndrome. Although the treatment of HWD is responded to adulticide (melarsomine), the adulticide is contraindicated to the dog with severe infestation. The best way to treat severe case is the mechanical removal from the heart.

Material and methods: We developed the non-surgical interventional method which enables to remove heartworm from the vena cava, right atrium and ventricle.

Results: We applied this method and successfully removed heartworm from 3 dogs with severe heartworm infestation

Clinical relevance: Newly developed method is non-surgical, non-invasive, relatively easy and cost-effective method for mechanical removal of heartworm from dogs with severe infestation. It would be clinically appreciated for treatment of severe heartworm infestation.

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