

## Immunosuppressive therapy with a combination of the leflunomide and cyclosporine for bullous pemphigoid in a Alaskan malamute dog

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**Introduction:** Bullous pemphigoid is a very rare vesiculobullous subepithelial automimmune skin and mucosal disease of the dog. It is characterized by the production of autoantibodies against basement membrane zone antigens that cause the epidermis to separate from the underlying dermis.

**Material and Method:** A 5 month old, male, Alaskan malamutedog was presented with salivation, regurgitation, alopecic,erythematous, erosive dermatitis on the face, ear pinnae and perianal region. Complete blood count, serum chemistry profile, radiography, ultrasonography and histopathologic examination.were performed.

**Result:** In thoracic radiography, generalized megaesophagus and alveolar pattern were detected. The patient had erosive, erythematous lesions on the ear pinnae, nail beds, lips and the palate which were suspected as autoimmune skin disease. In dermatohistopathologic examination, bullous pemphigoid was diagnosed. A combination of leflunomide and cyclosporinewas medicated. After immunosuppressive therapy, the skin lesions were greatly reduced, however recurrent aspiratory pneumonia was continued.

**Clinical relevance:** This case report demonstrate that successful immunosuppressive therapy with a combination of leflunomide and cyclosporine for bullous pemphigoid in a dog.

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