Rectal Plasmacytoma in a Maltese Dog

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Plasmacytomas are extramedullary tumors of the B lymphocyte cell line. It has been believed that B lymphocytes proceed to a malignant form so that plasmacytomas are reported to release single immunoglobulin. Other tumors of this cell line include solitary plasmacytoma of bone and multiple myeloma. Many studies have reported that extramedullary plasmacytomas are of subcutaneous type (84%), mucous membrane of oral and lips type (9%), colorectal type (4%), and visceral organs type (1%). Colorectal plasmacytomas are malignant tumors, but an aggressive surgical resection is usually considered to be enough for treatment. It is reported that metastasis or recurrence of colorectal plasmacytomas is rare after complete surgical resection.

A 10-year-old castrated male maltese dog was presented to the Haemaru animal referral hospital with severe hematochezia for about 4 months. He had a blood stool 2-3times a week at first but the clinical signs were progressive despite with conservative therapy by referred veterinarian. A firm mass was found during Rectal palpation, and rectal endoscopy was performed to evaluate the shape and size of the mass. The mass was resected surgically and diagnosed as plasmocytoma with histopathologic examination. The clinical signs such as hematochezia and tenesmus were disappeared after surgery, and there is no recurrence of mass for 4 months.

Solitary rectal plasmacytomas are uncommon malignant tumor in veterinary medicine. This report shows that rectal masses such as plasmacytoma are able to cause tenesmus and hematochezia. Because the prognosis of this tumors is good with appropriate treatment, biopsy and histopathologic examination is most important.

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