Sterile Panniculitis in a Maltese Dog

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Sterile panniculitis is a disease caused by inflammation in subcutaneous tissue from non-infectious cause. A 6-year-old female patient was referred with showing symptoms of ulceration and fistula around the trunk area. She had a history broad antibiotics and steroids at the local hospital In physical examination, idiopathic fever (40°C) was identified. Idiopathic fever (40°C), oily discharge around her left dorsal thorax and rump area and partially hardened skin were identified in physical examination.

We performed general screening test, fungal and bacterial culture, stain (include of acid fast stain and PAS) and fine needle biopsy. There were no specific findings except for subcutaneous inflammations.

Through the histopathology examination we can't show purulent inflammation in broad diffuse adipose tissue and dermal region. We also performed ANA and TLI test, but remarkable findings were not found. Immune suppression was presented to her with Cyclosporine A for initial treatment, but there were no remarkable improvement. However, drug response was not well, so we presented her with prednisolone and Azathioprine at the later stage. We identified that the cutaneous healing was finished after the amount of lesion discharge decreased, but continued to treat her with oral medication. Sterile panniculitis was rare in this breed as this case.

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