

Metastatic Adrenal Carcinoma in a Shih-Tzu

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In the case of small animal, adrenal gland tumor occurs mainly in cats and rare to metastasis. Especially, in dogs, the occurrence and the metastasis of the adrenal carcinoma is not common. In this case, 8-year-old male Shih-Tzu was presented with one-month history of abdominal distention and depression. We found the swelling of each side of adrenal glands and the swelling or mass of the right atrium, liver and mesenteric lymph node through radiographic and ultrasonic examination. Moreover, the symptoms were accompanied by ascites, electrolyte disorders and mild anemia. The patient died during anesthesia for a surgical biopsy, and an autopsy was performed

In histological findings, adrenal gland tumor was diagnosed as carcinoma. We could find cells which originate in the adrenal carcinoma in the other organs namely the liver and the blood vessel. Therefore, the result is the metastasis of the tumor of the adrenal carcinoma.

In this case, firstly, the patient came to hospital because of ascites which was chief complaint and then, the adrenal carcinoma invade to the inside of caudal vena cava so the carcinoma act as a thrombosis. Consequently, it is assumed that the increase of the pressure of caudal vena cava and abdominal vein result in the occurrence of ascites.

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