

Imaging diagnosis of pyothorax in a dog

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Signalment : A 3-years-old female Pointer was evaluated for anorexia, dyspnea and exercise intolerance for 10 days.

Results : Auscultation revealed muffling of heart sound. There were leukocytosis, anemia, hypoalbuminaemia and hyperglobulinaemia on the blood profiles. Radiography showed severe pleural effusion. Thorax ultrasonographs described trapped pleural effusion, pericardial effusion and collapsed right lung lobes. On CT images, thoracic neoplasia and lung torsion were ruled out. Thoracocentesis with thoracoscopy and bacterial culture revealed pyothorax and pleuritis. After medical treatment by result of antibiotics sensitivity test, the patient had good recovery.

Clinical relevance : The diagnosis of pyothorax in dogs and cats is based on clinical signs, radiography, thoracocentesis and cytology and culture of the exudate. In this case, various diagnostic medical imaging techniques(radiography, ultrasonography, CT and thoracoscopy) were used for diagnosis of pyothorax.

Key words: pyothorax, radiography, ultrasonography, CT, thoracoscopy

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