

Diagnostic Imaging of Urachal Cyst in a Hanwoo Calf

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Signalment: A 50-day-old, male Hanwoo calf with clinical signs of anorexia, weight loss, abdominal mass and dysuria was referred to Chonbuk Veterinary Medical Center of Chonbuk National University. The round abdominal mass was palpated around umbilicus.

Results: The irreducible umbilical swelling was homogenous soft tissue density on abdominal radiographs. On abdominal ultrasonography, the large oval (sized 6cm X 8cm) mass containing cellular echogenic fluid with thickened wall elongated into the peritoneal cavity (sized 5X12cm). The blood profile only showed mild neutrophilia. The aspirated fluid from the mass includes urine. On contrast radiographs, a small urachal diverticulum of urinary bladder was observed. The iodinated contrast medium injected into the mass filled the entire mass evenly and the contrast agent filled elongated mass was adjacent to urinary bladder. Urachal cyst related with persistent patent urachus was diagnosed. After surgical resection of the persistent urachus, the patient recovered without complications.

Clinical relevance: Urachal cyst associated with persistent patent urachus is uncommon malformation of the lower urinary tract in animals. Diagnostic imaging, especially contrast radiographs and ultrasonography can provide useful and practical information for making a diagnosis of congenital urachal abnormalities in calves.

Key words: urachal cyst, urachal remnant, calf, contrast radiography

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