

Positive Peritoneographic Features of True Diaphragmatic Hernia in Two Dogs

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Signalment: A two-year-old intact female Pekingese and a 1.5 year-old, female Pomeranian

Results: In these two cases, positive peritoneography was performed and a round pouch that protruded from the peritoneal cavity into the pericardial sac was identified and there was no communication between the two cavities. A presumptive diagnosis of true diaphragmatic hernia was made and the patient is being monitored without treatment.

Clinical relevance: A true diaphragmatic hernia is a rare congenital diaphragmatic malformation. In this study, it showed a similar radiographic image as a peritoneopericardial diaphragmatic hernia. A true diaphragmatic hernia is an incomplete diaphragmatic tear in which a direct communication between the pleural and peritoneal cavities is prevented by the serosa on the thoracic surface of the diaphragm which remains intact. Differentiation between these two conditions may be achieved with positive contrast peritoneography. This report has limitation that the authors could not clarify where the pouch is located, what abdominal organs are displaced and how many layers such as parietal pleura and peritoneum form the walls of the pouch, because additional diagnostic examinations were not applied. However, we speculate that this report propose illustrations of the radiographic appearance of true diaphragmatic hernia post peritoneography, to authors' knowledge, which could not be found in the current literature.

Key words: positive peritoneography, true diaphragmatic hernia, dog