

Superficial Necrolytic Dermatitis (Hepatocutaneous Syndrome) in a Dog with History of Long-term Phenobarbital Administration

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Signalment: A 10-year-old Maltese male castrated dog was presented with a history of erosive skin lesions on the footpad and perilabial region. It had a previous history of sialadenosis that was treated with phenobarbital at 2 to 10 mg/kg two times per day for 17 months.

Results: Skin lesions (footpad dermatitis), histopathology results (parakeratotic hyperkeratosis, oedema and hyperplasia of the epidermis) and liver involvement (nodular lesions and increased plasmatic levels of liver enzymes) suggested to a diagnosis of superficial necrolytic dermatitis (hepatocutaneous syndrome).

Clinical relevance: This article presents a case of superficial necrolytic dermatitis in a 10-year old Maltese castrated dog which was fairly typical for the disease. This case represents a diagnostic/therapeutic challenge in which clinical, clinical-pathological and histopathological findings are combined with ultrasound results for the diagnosis of this poorly understood metabolic disorder.

Key words: superficial necrotic dermatitis, hepatocutaneous syndrome, phenobarbital

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