



The Extrahepatic Cholestasis due to Pancreatic Tumor in a Terrier Breed Dog: Case Report

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Summary: A-10 year-old, intact female terrier breed dog referred to Veterinary Teaching Hospital with the complaints of anorexia and constipation. The mastectomy operation had been obtained 3 years ago according to owner's information. Clinical and ultrasonographic assessments confirmed the hepatic cholestasis. Medical management with Cefazolin, enrofloxacin, ursodeoxycholic acid, and fluid therapy were initiated. The dog has referred back a month later with the complaints of abrupt anorexia and icterus. Routine blood tests and control ultrasonography confirmed severe cholestasis and enlarged gall bladder without mass. Experimental laparotomy revealed pancreatic tumor compressing bile ducts. Total tumor resection and choleduodenostomy performed. Pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma was proved by the histopathologic examination of the samples. According to owner's unwilling to chemotherapy and post-operative treatment, dog was euthanized. In this case report; neoplastic mass possibility in dogs with severe cholestasis must be taken into consideration.

Key words: Choleduodenostomy, dog, pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma

Terrier Irkı Bir Köpekte Pankreatik Tümöre Bağlı Ekstrahepatik Kolestazis: Olgu Sunumu

Özet: Bu olgunun materyalini Veteriner Eğitim Hastanesine getirilen 10 yaşlı dişi Terrier ırkı bir köpek oluşturdu. Anamnezde; hastada anoreksi, konstipasyon varlığı ve 3 yıl önce mastektomi operasyonu geçirdiği bilgisi alındı. Klinik ve ultrasonografik değerlendirmeler hepatic kolestazi doğruladı. İki hafta süreli; Sefazolin, Enrofloksasin, Ursodeoksikolik asit ve destekleyici sıvı sağaltımı ile tedaviye başlandı. Bir ay sonra hasta, ani başlayan anoreksi ve sarılık şikayetleriyle tekrar hastaneye başvurdu. Rutin kan analizleri ve ultrasonografi ile şiddetli kolestazis ve safra kesesinde genişleme belirlendi. Deneysel laparotomi ile safra kanallarına baskı yapan pankreatik tümör tespit edildi. Total tümör rezeksiyonu ve koleduedenostomi uygulandı. Histopatolojik değerlendirmeler ile pankreatik duktal adenokarsinom belirlendi. Kemoterapi ve post-operatif tedaviye onay verilmemesi sonucu hasta ötenazi yapıldı. Bu olgu sunumuyla; şiddetli kolestazisi bulunan köpeklerde neoplastik kitle ihtimalinin göz ardı edilmemesinin önemi vurgulanmıştır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Koleduedenostomi, köpek, pankreatik duktal adenokarsinom,

Introduction

Pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC) is one of the most aggressive tumor associated with high mortality (1). The cause of pancreatic neoplasm is not known in dogs. An estimated rate of pancreatic carcinoma in dogs has reported as 17.8 (2). Primary pancreatic adenocarcinomas are derived

from acinar cells or ducts. Pancreatic carcinomas commonly invade the stomach, duodenum, liver, lungs and peritoneal surface. If the neoplasms block the common bile duct, progressive tumor necrosis may cause the biliary flow obstruction led to pancreatic atrophy, pancreatitis or exocrine pancreatic insufficiency. Clinical signs include the non-specific complaints of anorexia, lethargy, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain and icterus (3). This case report indicates not to forget possibility of neoplastic mass in dogs having severe cholestasis

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and, the importance of curative and medical management of pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma.

Case History

A-10 year-old, female terrier breed dog referred to Veterinary Teaching Hospital with the complaints of anorexia, constipation and hypodipsia for a week. The mastectomy operation had been obtained 3 years ago according to owner's information. Clinical examination revealed severe abdominal distress and pain in right abdominal region. The routine blood tests were in normal ranges. Abdominal ultrasonography confirmed severe cholestasis with biliary sludge, enlarged gall bladder and distended bile ducts. Medical management with Cefazolin (25 mg/kg, q8, hours, iv), enrofloxacin (5mg/kg once daily s.c), ursodeoxycholic acid (10mg/kg, once daily PO) and fluid therapy for two weeks initiated. The dog has referred back a month later with the complaints of abrupt anorexia, abdominal pain and icterus. On the basis of routine blood tests (Table 1), cholestatic icterus was diagnosed. Control ultrasonography confirmed cholestasis and severe enlarged gall bladder without mass. Experimental laparotomy (Figure 1) revealed pancreatic tumor compressing bile ducts. Total tumor resection and choleduodenostomy performed. Pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (Figure 2a, 2b) was proved by the histopathological examination of the samples. Gross pathology; surrounding pancreatic tumors 4-5 cm in length shown a solid color change from white to gray. Tumor cells were cuboidal, and had granular apical cytoplasm, Nuclei were basal, round, and hyperchromatic, with large nucleoli and frequent mitotic figures. Additional features of cellular atypia included mild anisocytosis and nuclear pleomorphism. Tumors were discontinuously bordered by fibrous connective tissue, suggestive of collapsed pancreatic interstitium. Infiltrative nests of neoplastic epithelial cells extended into the fibrous connective tissue. According to owner unwilling to chemotherapy and post-operative treatment, dog was euthanised.

Discussion

Dogs with abdominal pain often are a diagnostic and therapeutic challenge for the veterinary practitioner. Successful management of these patients requires accurate clinical assessment, diagnostic information and right treatment. Extrahepatic bile duct obstruction (EBDO) is one of the acute abdomen causes in dogs (6). The most common cause of EBDO is extraluminal obstruction from acute-on-chronic pancreatitis. Pancreatitis starts a pathologic process at the level of the common bile duct which blocks bile flow to duodenum. Despite the unusuality of the pancreatic tumors in the dogs, sometimes they cause to EBDO (6). Abdominal ultrasound does not always provide proper image of pancreas and pancreatic tumors to distinguish from the surrounding parenchyma (4). Ultrasonography – guided FNS cytology has been suggested as a useful means of the diagnosis and the differentiation of pancreatic mass (5). In this case we suspicious to the the chronic hepatic problem according to routine blood tests and hepatic enzymes. In the abdominal palpation and further ultrasonographical examination not confirmed the pancreatic mass properly. But by the exploratory laparotomy procedures confirmed possibility of neoplastic mass in dogs having severe cholestasis. The ancillary diagnostic procedures like CT-Scan or MRI suggested to the diagnosis of the pancreatic tumors in the dogs. When we look at the work done for pancreatic tumors more detailed studies in the literature in terms of this case report is important for our country.

Table 1. Routin blood work

Tests	Results	Reference Range
WBC (x10 ⁹ /l)	30.18	6.00-17.00
LYM (x 10 ⁹ /l)	5.39	1.00- 4.80
MONO (x 10 ⁹ /l)	0.72	0.20 -1.50
GRA (x 10 ⁹ /l)	8.47	3.00-12.00
LY (%)	53.0	12.0-30.0
MONO (%)	6.1	3.0-10.0
GR (%)	83.9	62.0- 87.0
RBC (x 10 ¹² /l)	5.45	5.50-8.50
HGB (g/dl)	12.8	12.0-18.0
HCT (%)	39.78	37.00- 55.00
MCV (fl)	63	60-77
MCH (pg)	24.5	19.5- 24.5
MCHC (g/dl)	29.4	31.0-34.0
RDWc (%)	13.6	-
PLT (x 10 ⁹ /l)	549	200-500
Glu (mg/dl)	85	65- 118
Urea (mg/dl)	41	15-59.9
BUN (mg/dl)	19	5-25
SCr (mg/dl)	1.8	0.5-1.5
Total Protein (g/dl)	7.4	5.4-7.1
Albumin (g/dl)	3.2	3.1- 4.0
Total Bilirubin (mg/dl)	30	0.1-0.3
Direct Bilirubin (mg/dl)	19	-
Cholesterol (mg/dl)	322	100.0- 300.0
Triglycerides (mg/dl)	56	50.0-100.0
ALP (IU/L)	3542	20.0-156.0
ALT (IU/L)	112	21.0-102.0
AST (IU/L)	96	23.0-66.0
GGT (IU/L)	66	6.0-28.0
Ca (mg/dl)	10.9	9.0-11.3
Na (mMol/L)	141	140-153
K (mEq/L)	3.9	3.5-5.7
Cl (mMol/L)	107	106-118



Figure 1.
a. Experimental laparotomy indicates pancreatic tumor



b. Choleduedonostomy operation

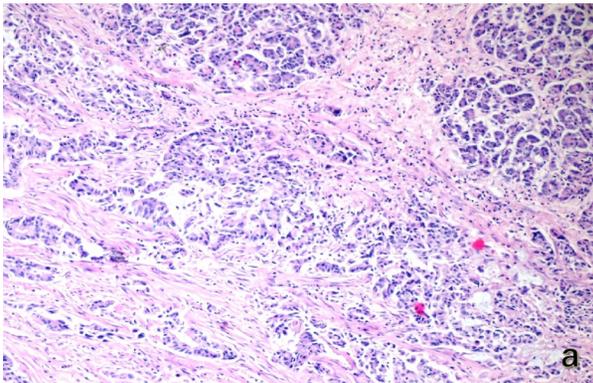
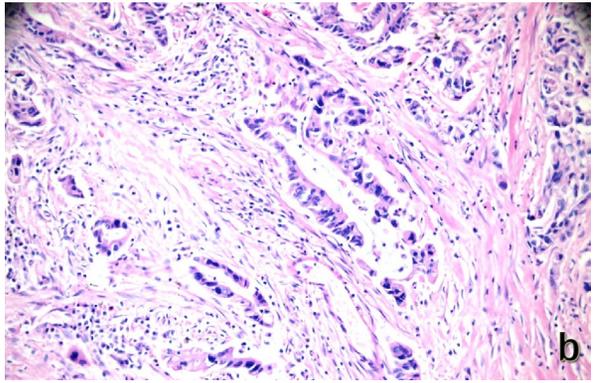


Figure 2.
a. Ductal adenocarcinoma derived from ductus (H&E, x200).



b. Glandular structure of tumoral cells (H&E, x200).

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