

Neurology

Dr. Ed Neufeld B.A. M.Div. D.V.M.

Case #2

Chief Complaint

• "Tess is a 12 year old German Shepherd that suddenly fell over and then had difficulty getting up. When she did eventually stand and attempted to walk she was very ataxic and vomited twice.

Tess



History

- Suddenly fell over and had difficulty rising
- When she did get up she was ataxic
- She demonstrated a left head tilt
- Walks in circles circling to the left
- Appetite normal
- Seems bright and alert

Physical Examination

- Bright, alert, responsive (BAR)
- Temperature 38.8 degrees C
- Heart Rate 90 bpm
- Respiratory Rate 16 per minute
- Walking circles to the left with left head tilt
- Proprioception normal
- Nystagmus horizontal fast phase to the right
- Seems to be disorientated
- Tympanic membrane intact no signs of infection

Video of our dog

https://www.youtube.com/watch?
v=IP5el2U8ePY&t=72s

Rule Outs

- List all the Possible Diagnoses
- This list is your Rule Out list

Rule Outs

- Otitis Media and interna
- Ototoxic drugs
- Trauma
- Hypothyroid neuropathy
- Geriatric Vestibular Disease
- Brain neoplasia
- Hepatoencephalopathy

The Plan

• What is your PLAN?



- CBC,
- Blood Chemistry
- Complete U/A
- Radiograph of the Tympanic Bulla

Lab Findings

- PCV 37 (37-55)
- RBC -6.0 x 10 3 (5.5 8.5)
- WBC-16 x10 3 (6-17)
- ALT 150 u/l (10-100)
- Total Bilirubin 1.0 mg/dl (0.0 − 0.9)
- T4 21 (20-45 mmol/L)
- U/A: USG 1.030
- Radiograph of the tympanic bulla is normal

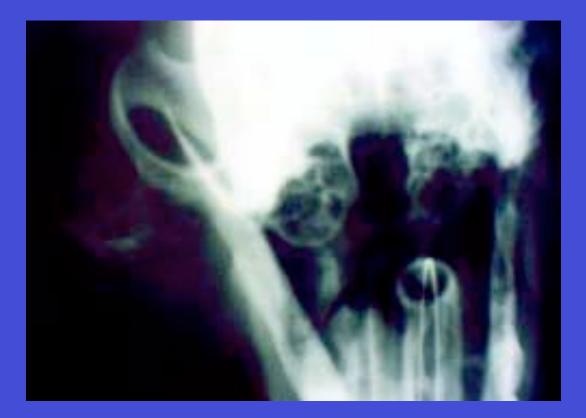
What test/procedure would you use to rule out Otitis Media/Interna

• Test/Procedure to Rule Out Otitis Media/ Interna?

Test/Procedure to R/O Otitis Media/ Interna

• Radiographs of the Tympanic Bulla

Radiograph #1 of the Tympanic Bulla – open mouth view



Radiograph #2 of the Tympanic Bulla – open mouth view



List your radiographic findings

What do you see?

What do you see on the radiograph?

- Radiograph #1
- Calcification of external ear cartilage
- Increased tissue density of the right bulla
- Radiograph #2
- Opaque shadow in the right bulla
- Note: In our case Tess' radiographs of the bulla were normal

Rule Out Elimination

- From the clinical signs, physical examination, and lab findings what rule outs from the next slide are likely and which ones are unlikely?
- Give reasons for you answers

Rule Out Elimination

- Otitis Media and interna
- Ototoxic drugs
- Trauma
- Hypothyroid neuropathy
- Geriatric Vestibular Disease
- Brain neoplasia
- Hepatoencephalopathy

Rule Outs – possible or unlikely?

- Otitis Media and interna unlikely tympanic membrane intact, radiographs of bulla normal
- Ototoxic drugs unlikely no history of drugs
- Trauma unlikely no history of trauma
- Hypothyroid neuropathy unlikely T4 is normal
- Geriatric Vestibular Disease quite likely
- Brain neoplasia unlikely usually slow progressive onset with proprioceptor deficits.
- Hepatoencephalopathy ALT relatively Normal

What is the Diagnosis?

• What is the diagnosis?



• Canine Geriatric Vestibular Disease

Treatment Plan

• What is your treatment plan?

Treatment Plan

- Most times do nothing. They will recover in 10-14 days.
- If vomting and nausea give Diphenhydramine (antihistamine)
- If there is any concern about Otitis Media/Interna give antibiotics.



• What is the prognosis of Geriatric Vestibular Disease ?

Prognosis?

- Excellent most dogs return to normal in
- 2-3 weeks



The End







