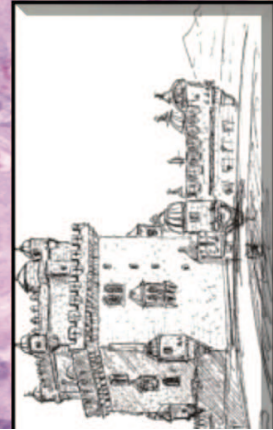


II Iberic Meeting of Veterinary Pathology


XXVI Annual Meeting of the Portuguese
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C16 - THYMIC SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA? DO YOU CONFIRM THIS DIAGNOSIS?

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Introduction: In dogs thymic carcinoma is considered rare and distinguishes itself from thymoma by its cytologically malignant features, extensive local invasion, and a substantial potential for metastasis. Surgical excision is the treatment of choice for most thymic tumours, with the exception of lymphoma.

Medical History: A 9 years old cross-breed male dog was presented due to cough and respiratory distress with duration of 4 weeks. The animal presented with inspiratory dyspnea and cyanosis. A mass, dorsal to the pharynx, was diagnosed after clinical and radiographical examination, suspected of thyroid neoplasia. Cytology was performed and revealed cells consistent with malignancy, apparently carcinoma with high parameters of aggressiveness. As a form of treatment and to obtain a definitive diagnosis, was decided to surgically remove the mass which measured 7.8x3.7x3.5cm.

Material and Methods: The sample was fixed in 10 % buffered formalin solution for histological evaluation and sent to the Anatomic Pathology Laboratory of the Agrarian Superior School of Viseu, in Portugal, for histological evaluation.

Results: Microscopic examination revealed that we were in presence of a lymphoid organ, with peculiar features, namely a small to intermediate-sized lymphoid cells, "starry-sky" pattern and rounded eosinophilic perivascular arrangements resembling Hassall's corpuscles. Concomitantly, typical features of squamous cell carcinoma were evident.

Discussion and Conclusion: In conclusion, based on its histological features, the authors suggested the diagnosis of Thymic Squamous Cell Carcinoma with an unusual location. Thymic tumours in dogs are predominantly located in the anterior mediastinum but they may extend from the neck to the posterior mediastinum.