SURGICAL MANAGEMENT OF LIPOMA IN A DOG

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ABSTRACT

An eight year old Spitz weighing 6 kg was presented to the Department of Veterinary Surgery and Radiology, College of Veterinary Science, Tirupati with a complaint of swelling on the umbilical region for the past one month. Physical examination revealed semisolid, freely movable mass noticed on the umbilical region. Temperature, respiratory rate, pulse rate, heart rate were within physiological limits. Heamatobiochemical values revealed no significant changes. Radiograph of thorax revealed no lung metastasis and fine needle aspiration biopsy revealed fat cells. Under atropine sulphate and xylazine hydrochloride premedication and ketamine hydrochloride-diazepam the tumor mass was excised. Excised tumor mass was subjected to histopathological examination which confirmed the mass as lipoma. Animal recovered uneventfully with no recurrence of tumor over a period of 6 months.

Key words : Surgical management, Lipoma, Dog.

INTRODUCTION

Lipomas are benign tumors arising from mature adipocytes, most common in dogs and cats. The tumors may be present in the dermis or subcutaneous tissue. The size of these tumors may be 1 cm up to 30 cms. Being benign tumor, surgical excision is the right choice of treatment. The adipose tissue tumors are the common mesenchymal skin tumors of dogs with higher incidence in old female dogs (Theilen and Madewell, 1979). The present study records a case of lipoma in a dog and its surgical management.

CASE HISTORY AND OBSERVATIONS

An eight year old Spitz weighing 6 kg was presented to the Department of Veterinary Surgery and Radiology, College of Veterinary Science, Tirupati with a complaint of swelling on the umbilical region for the past one month. Physical examination revealed semisolid, freely movable mass noticed on the umbilical region (Fig.-1). Temperature, respiratory rate, pulse rate, heart rate were within physiological limits. Heamatobiochemical values revealed no significant changes. Radiograph of thorax revealed no lung metastasis and fine needle aspiration biopsy revealed fat cells. Hence, this case was tentatively diagnosed as a case of skin tumor and it was decided to perform surgical removal of the tumor mass.

TREATMENT DISCUSSION

Surgical site was prepared aseptically and the dog was premedicated with atropine sulphate at the dose rate of 0.44 mg/kg body weight subcutaneously and after 10 minutes ketamine hydrochloride was given at the dose rate of 8.0 mg/kg body weight intramuscularly and Diazepam at the dose rate of 0.2 mg/kg body weight intravenously to achieve desired anesthetic effects. Animal was placed under dorsal recumbency and elliptical incision was made 1.5 cm away from the base of the tumor. After complete haemostasis, the tumor...
growth was excised and to avoid anatomical dead space and accumulation of serosanguinous fluid, subcutaneous tissue was apposed with subcuticular pattern using chromic catgut no.0. Skin was apposed with horizontal mattress pattern using No.1 silk. Post operatively animal was given ceftriaxone at the dose rate of 20 mg/kg body weight intravenously and meloxicam 0.50 mg/kg body weight subcutaneously for 5 days. Wound dressing was done on alternative days for four dressing. Animal was recovered uneventfully on 11th post operative day. Excised tumor growth was subjected to histopathological examination which revealed polyhedral closely packed cells with several vacuoles and nucleus was pushed to one side (Fig. 2).

Lipoma found in the subcutaneous tissue of abdomen often associated with subcutaneous fat (Weiss, 1974). The surgical removal of the lipoma was successful and it stimulated the findings of Theilen and Madewell, (1979).

REFERENCES