

Short Communication

BILATERAL DERMOID OF CORNEA IN A DOG - CASE REPORT

Dermoid is a choristoma, which is a congenital mass of tissue that appears in an abnormal, unnatural location (Gelatt, 1991). In eye, dermoid appears as a skin or skin-like appendage on the cornea and conjunctiva, extending from the limbus (Archibald, 1974). It appears in dogs usually on the temporal aspect of the cornea, but has been observed involving different proportions of the anterior segment surface. It can be unilateral or bilateral and may be associated with other ocular malformations. It can occur in any breed, but occur most frequently in Saint Bernards, Dachshunds and Dalmatians (Gelatt, 1981). Being a congenital anomaly, its pathogenesis has not been clearly known (Jubb *et al.*, 1993).

A Dalmatian male dog one year old was presented to the Veterinary College Hospital, Mannuthy, with

complaint of purulent discharge from both eyes and blepherospasm. On examination, there were growths of skin with hairs on the temporal aspect of the cornea of both eyes.

The eye was prepared for aseptic surgery by irrigating with two per cent boric acid solution. A broad spectrum antibiotic preparation* was instilled prior to surgery. Triflupromazine hydrochloride** 20 mg was administered intramuscular as preanaesthetic. Fifteen minutes later, 5 per cent solution of Thiopentone sodium*** 6 ml was administered intravenous to effect anaesthesia. The dog was intubated and controlled on right lateral recumbancy with its head elevated on a sand bag and the head was draped. The dermoid attached to the cornea was removed by performing superficial keratectomy (Gelatt, 1981) and the part attached to sclera was also gently dissected out.

* *Pychlor eye drops - solution containing Polymixin B sulphate 5000 IU and Chloramphenicol 5 mg/ml - Blueshield Private Limited, Mumbai - 400 086*

** *Siquil injection - Triflupromazine hydrochloride 20 mg/ml solution by Sarabhai Chemicals, Baroda - 390007*

*** *Intraval Sodium 0.5 g - Thiopentone sodium injection by Rhone-Poulenc, Mumbai - 400 025*

Throughout the procedure, the corneal surface was kept moist by instilling sterile normal saline. After surgery, the eye was thoroughly irrigated with sterile normal saline and instilled antibiotic eye drops. The procedure was repeated on the other eye also.

A broad spectrum antibiotic preparation* was instilled in the eyes at regular intervals till healing is complete. The corneal lesion healed up uneventfully with minimum scarring. Slatter (1993) reported that even after uneventful keratectomy, corneal scarring may occur.

Acknowledgement

The authors are thankful to the Dean, College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Mannuthy, Kerala Agricultural University for according sanction to publish this paper.

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