

LIVER CIRRHOSIS ASSOCIATED WITH A NON-RESPONSIVE ASCITES IN A 10 MONTH OLD ALSATIAN DOG

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A ten month old Alsatian bitch presented with complaint of recurring ascites over a period of three months and had been refractory to diuretic therapy. The condition was diagnosed as liver cirrhosis by serum chemistry, exploratory laparotomy and histopathology of the liver. Result of the serum chemistry showed a progressively decreasing serum albumin and liver enzymes. Similarly the Albumin/Globulin (AG) ratio was progressively decreasing. Haematological findings were that of anaemia of chronic disorder (mild normocytic, normochromic, non responsive). The PCV, HB and RBC also decreased progressively. Exploratory laparotomy findings were that of a slightly enlarged liver with diffuse milinary nodules on both the parietal and visceral surfaces. Few larger nodules were also present. The liver was firmer in consistency and two separate masses of fibrinous tissue measuring about 5cm in length and 2cm in thickness were seen floating in the abdominal transudate. The transudate which measured about 15 litre was colourless and slightly cloudy. The bitch was euthanised following laparotomy and on the owners request due to the non-responsiveness of the animal to diuretic and other supportive therapies.

Key words: Liver cirrhosis, Heart failure, ascites, frusemide, dog