
CLINICAL MEDICINE

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Teat Lesions Resulting from Fungus Infection.

In dairy cattle teat lesions are often frustrating. Not only do they interfere with proper milking procedure, but also increase the incidence of mastitis.

On March 12, 1958, two Guernsey cows were admitted to Stange Memorial Clinic. They were from a herd in which teat lesions had persisted for the past three years. The owner stated that the severity was greatest during lactation and decreased considerably during the dry period.



Fig. 1. Appearance of initial uncomplicated teat lesions.

Skin scrapings were taken from affected teat areas on both cows. They were cultured and *Monilia imperfecta* was identified¹ as the etiological agent. This fungus is a cutaneous dermatophyte

which usually produces localized lesions but which tend to coalesce. The hyphae grow into the epithelial cells thereby causing necrosis of the affected cells. These necrotic areas are subject to secondary bacterial infection. Also, this fungus infection is usually found where vitamin deficiencies exist and where antibacterial agents have been used.

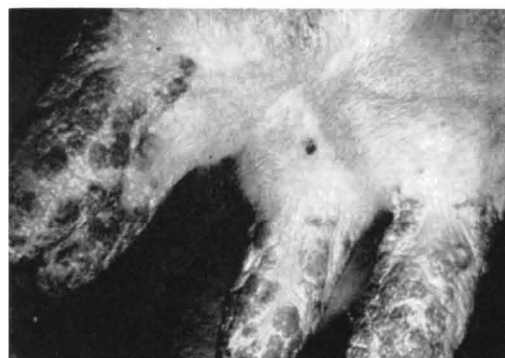


Fig. 2. Advanced stage of lesions, complicated by bacterial invasion.



Fig. 3. Lesions affecting teat meatus resulting in high incidence of mastitis.

In treating lesions produced by this fungus, Nystatin² has proven quite effective and is usually applied as an ointment. During the acute stage and prior to secondary bacterial infection a 1 per cent aqueous solution of Gentian violet is an effective therapeutic agent.

This case is representative of those brought to Stange Memorial Clinic and illustrates the difficulty in making a correct diagnosis prior to administering effective therapy.

—Warren Bohnhoff '58

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2. Mycostatin® Squibb

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Esophageal Tumor in a Dog.

Esophageal tumors are considered a rarity in present day diagnostic interpretations, however, a report from Alabama indicates that such tumors are by no means so rare as have been the indications. In a series of esophageal neoplasms found in dogs over a period of 3 years the esophageal worm, *Spirocerca lupi*, was found in each tumor. This may possibly indicate the etiological importance of the parasite.¹

In dogs the esophageal or gullet worm

penetrates the mucosa and submucosa of the lower esophagus causing a reaction in the form of subepithelial, fibrous nodules to develop. The smoothly covered, often coalescent, nodules bulge into the lumen as much as 0.5 centimeters. The only neoplasms of significant frequency in the esophagus of domestic animals is a fibrous and bony tumor in the esophagus of the dog. They are most commonly osteosarcomas, the ossification representing a metaplasia from fibrous tissue. Chronic irritation from *Spirocerca lupi* is thought to be the cause. Smith and Jones conclude, "Indeed the concomitant occurrence of the sarcoma and the parasites would seem too frequent to be a coincidence."²

This report is submitted to point out the possibility of occurrence of tumors of the esophagus when symptoms may indicate some other condition is present.

On March 30, 1958, a 7-year old Red Bone Coonhound male entered the Stange Memorial Clinic. The history revealed that the dog had been vomiting 2-3 times a day for the past 4 weeks. In spite of this, the appetite had remained excellent and the dog was in good physical condition. The patient had been treated in the field for ulcers and hepatitis with no relief of symptoms. Upon entry the dog was given a thorough physical examination. The only item of significance was excessive saliva in the oral cavity. There was no evidence of inflammation in the mouth or throat and the tonsils appeared normal. Vomition occurred sporadically with little or no retching. The vomitus consisted of a mixture of tenacious saliva and mucus.

A lateral radiograph of the thoracic region was taken. Interpretation revealed suspicion of a dilatation of the esophagus dorsal to the heart. The patient was given an ounce of barium sulfate orally in water and another lateral radiograph of the thorax was taken immediately. This picture failed to show anything further, however, there was a small area of greater density just dorsal to the heart.

On April 3, the dog was weighed and given 5 cc. of 4 per cent Surital Sodium®