

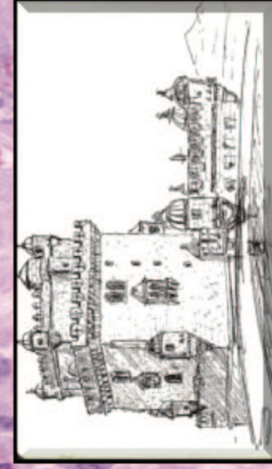


II Iberic Meeting of Veterinary Pathology

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P21 - LOMBAR TRANVERSE-PROCESS OSTEO-SARCOMA

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Introduction: Osteosarcoma (OSA) is the most common primary bone tumour in dogs. Between 20 and 25% of canine OSAs arise from bones of the axial skeleton, and these tumours are also the most common extradural spinal neoplasm (46%). The radiographic appearance is nonspecific and inconsistent. Pain without neurological signs is the predominant initial finding with vertebral OSA.

Materials and Methods: An 8-year-old cross-bred male dog was brought to the surgery with progressive weight loss, apathy and nonspecific pain. A paralumbar mass on the left side was diagnosed after clinical and radiographical examination. Cytology of the mass was performed and the animal was hospitalized for pain control and nutritional support until definitive diagnosis. During hospitalization, the clinical status of the animal deteriorated, and neurological abnormalities emerged. Cytology examination revealed the presence of cells characteristic of a neoplastic process of mesenchymal origin, apparently sarcoma. A myelogram revealed spinal cord compression at L4, caused by the mass. Due to the deterioration of the dog's clinical state and in view of the diagnosis, the owners opted for euthanasia.

Results: At necropsy, thickening of the transverse process of vertebra L4 was observed, due to a mass measuring 6.3 x 7.0 x 4.5 cm. Histopathological examination revealed an OSA with distinct histological characteristics.

Discussion and Conclusion: An unsuccessful outcome OSA was diagnosed. Adequate treatment of local disease in vertebral OSA is very difficult. Surgery is aimed at decompression in dogs with neurologic deficits or intractable pain. Present recommendations are to perform surgery for decompression and institute radiation and chemotherapy.