

Ed Rosser. Posters will be accepted and a special session of histopathology will be held with the help of the dermatopathology group. Rome in September is simply wonderful to visit. I look forward to seeing all of you in Rome in 1992.

Antonella Vercelli

The following is a new feature reviewing the literature in Veterinary Dermatology.

SELECTED PAPERS

1. Charpin C et al.: *Fel d 1* allergen distribution in cat fur and skin.

J Allergy Clin Immunol 1991; 88:77-82

Fel d 1 is the major cat allergen. It was formerly considered to be produced by salivary glands and applied on cat fur by licking and grooming. In the present study, it is suggested that this antigen is produced by sebaceous cells and, to a lesser extent, by basal squamous epithelial cells; and that it is stored mainly on the surface of the epidermis and hair.

2. Katz AM, Rosenthal D, Sauder DN: Cell Adhesion Molecules - Structure, function, and implication in a variety of cutaneous and other pathological conditions. *Int J Dermatol* 1991; 30:153-160

This is a major review article on the newly discovered Integrins, Immunoglobulin-gene-family CAMs, Cadherins and Lectin-like CAMs. The importance of CAMs and pathological states is emphasized in diseases associated with leukocyte adhesion deficiency, malignancies, and inflammatory dermatoses.

3. Imura H, Fukata JI, Mori T: Cytokines and endocrine function: an interaction between the immune and neuroendocrine system. *Clin Endocrinol* 1991; 35:107-115.

This paper describes the intimate relationship between diverse cytokines and the different endocrine systems. It is summarized that IL-1 activates the hypothalamo-pituitary-adrenal axis by acting at different levels, that IL-1, TNF-alpha and IFN-gamma inhibit the secretion of sex hormones by acting at the CNS and Gonadal levels, and that IL-1 influences the secretion of neurohypophyseal hormones (GH, PRL).

4. Fox LE, et al.: Plasma histamine and gastrin concentrations in 17 dogs with mast cell tumors. *J Vet Internal Med* 1990; 4:242-246

High plasma histamine concentrations were observed in dogs with mast cell tumors (MCT), whatever the histologic grade was. Conversely, plasma gastrin was significantly lower in MCT dogs than normal dogs. It is suggested that hyperhistaminemia inducing gastric hyperacidity, may be a factor of the gastric ulceration commonly observed in dogs with MCT. The use of anti-H2 antihistamines seems warranted in any dog affected by MCT.

5. Carney HC, et al.: Papillomavirus infection of aged persian cats. *J Vet Diagn Invest* 1990; 2:294-299.

Papillomavirus infection was confirmed in 2 Persian cats with sessile hyperkeratotic skin lesions. The cats developed numerous, rough, raised plaques, which were not the typical papillomas encountered in other species. This feline cutaneous papillomavirus is a unique virus type which has not been previously described.

6. Fadok VA, Greiner EC: Equine insect hypersensitivity: skin test and biopsy results correlated with clinical data. *Equine Vet J* 1990; 22:236-240

Seasonally pruritic and asymptomatic horses were skin tested for insect, grass and mold allergies. Affected horses reacted to varying dilutions of extracts made from *Culicoides*, mosquitoes, horse flies and black flies. Reaction to *Culicoides* were more intense than those of other arthropods. Three clinical syndromes associated with insect hypersensitivity were described: 1) horses with lesions on face, ears, mane, withers, rump and tail; 2) horses with lesions on face, ears, intermandibular space, chest, abdomen and groin; 3) those with a combination of dorsal and ventral lesions.

7. Barbet JL, Bevier D, Greiner EC: Specific immunotherapy in the treatment of *Culicoides* hypersensitive horses: a double blind study. *Equine Vet J* 1990; 22:232-235

A six month, controlled, double blind trial was conducted to assess the efficacy of immunotherapy using an aqueous extract of whole, unfed, *Culicoides variipennis* in the treatment of *Culicoides* hypersensitivity. Statistically, there was no significant difference between horses on *Culicoides* antigen and control horses.

8. Couto CG et al.: In vitro immunologic features of Weimaraner dogs with neutrophil abnormalities and recurrent infections. *Vet Immunol Immunopath* 1989; 23:103-112

The Weimaraner dogs with recurrent episodes of fever and infection (including pyoderma) and abnormal neutrophil chemiluminescence seem to have an isolated defect in the granulocytic function and adequate cellular and humoral immune responses.

9. Cohn LA: The influence of corticosteroids on host defence mechanisms. *J Vet Internal Med* 1991; 5:95-104

Glucocorticosteroid hormones affect virtually every tissue type in the body, including tissues of host-defense systems. This literature review examines the effects of corticosteroids on leukocyte kinetics, phagocytosis, cell-mediated and humoral immunity.

10. Schmeitzel LP, Lothrop CD: Hormonal abnormalities in Pomeranians with normal coat and in Pomeranian with growth-hormone-responsive dermatosis. *J Amer Vet Med Assoc* 1990; 197:1333-1341

GH-responsive dermatosis in Pomeranians may not be entirely attribute to hyposomatotropism. These dogs seem to suffer from a partial 21-alpha-hydroxylase enzyme deficiency leading to an abnormal adrenocortical hyperprogesterinism and/or hyperandrogenism.

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FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

The diary of forthcoming meetings will be regularly brought up to date on the ESVD Bulletin Board.

April 1992

2nd April: British Veterinary Dermatology Study Group Meeting, Pre-BSAVA Congress, International Convention Centre, Birmingham, UK. Details from: Richard Harvey, Dermatology Unit, Department of Small Animal Medicine and Surgery, Royal Veterinary College, Hawkshead Lane, North Mymms, Hatfield, Herts. AL9 7TA, UK.

3rd-5th April: BSAVA Congress, International Convention Centre, Birmingham, UK. Details from: BSAVA, Kingsley House, Church Lane, Shurdington, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL51 5TQ, UK

5th April: SCIVAC Dermatology Group, Italy. Endocrine Skin Diseases I, Brescia, Italy. Details from Alessandra Fondati, Via Gregorio VII 518, 00165 Rome, Italy.

6th-19th April: European School for Advanced Veterinary Studies. Dermatology Courses, Luxembourg. Further details are given elsewhere in this issue.

May 1992

13th-16th May: 2nd World Congress of Veterinary Dermatology, Montreal, Canada. Further details are given elsewhere in this issue.

September 1992

24th: ESVD Annual Meeting, Rome. Details are given elsewhere in this issue.

November 1992

11th: SCIVAC Dermatology Group, Italy. Endocrine Skin Diseases II, Brescia, Italy. Details from Alessandra Fondati, Via Gregorio VII 518, 00165 Rome, Italy.

April 1993

25th-28th April: ESVD & Voorjaarsdagen joint meeting.

Venue: RIA Congress Center, Amsterdam

Topic: feline dermatology

Details will be given in subsequent bulletins

Please send details of any meetings you are organising to me. Information regarding topics, speakers and venue are required.