

EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF VETERINARY DERMATOLOGY



ANNUAL REPORT E.S.V.D. No.2, March 1987.

Editor: dr. Ton Willemse, D.V.M., Ph.D., The Netherlands

For the second time the European Society of Veterinary Dermatology has published its annual report. The society board has the intention to let print the report regularly and hopes that many members will contribute to the report in the near future.

You may expect the following exciting information in this issue:

- * a report of the 3rd E.S.V.D. meeting in Amsterdam, 1986
- * a report of the E.S.V.D. meeting held in Paris, Dec.1986
- * forthcoming meetings
- * dermatology publications
- * advertisement for a dermatology newsletter - editor .

I hope that you will enjoy reading this issue of the E.S.V.D. annual report.

Ton Willemse.

REPORT OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE E.S.V.D.
AMSTERDAM - APRIL 11th and 12th, 1986.

The third meeting of the E.S.V.D. was held in Amsterdam in collaboration with the Royal Dutch Society of Veterinary Medicine (companion animal medicine group). The programme focussed on immune mediated skin disorders during the first day. Dr. Richard Halliwell (Gainesville, U.S.A.) discussed the current state in flea bite hypersensitivity and the therapy of autoimmune dermatoses. The latter described remission, induction, and maintenance therapy, using high dose corticosteroid therapy, gold-salt therapy, and other immunosuppressive drugs. In addition dr. Ton Willemsse (The Netherlands) gave two lectures about contactdermatoses in dogs and cats, describing the clinical features, diagnostic tests and the therapy, and canine atopic disease, in which recently introduced criteria for the disease were discussed. Finally dr. Jean F. Bardet (France) gave an interesting talk about skin grafting, its pathophysiology and the technical procedures, and dr. Marinus Wisselink (The Netherlands) reported about recently obtained data on the clinical and immunological characterization of German Shepherd dog Pycoderma (G.S.P.).

During the second day a large variety of free communications of interest for both practitioners and scientists, was presented to the audience. An initiative which has to be continued in future meetings.

The second half of the morning was dedicated to diagnostic aids in dermatology, focussing on the collection and identification of pathogenic and contaminant fungi, mites and insects from the skin and coat of dogs, cats and guinea pigs. During the afternoon participants could exercise on diagnostic procedures and techniques concerning mycology and parasitology.

For those who were not able or interested to participate in this wet-lab session, an open discussion between dr. Didier Carlotti (France), dr. Jan Declercq (Belgium), dr. Ton Willemsse (The Netherlands) and the audience about different dermatological disorders, entitled: "To scratch or not to scratch, that is the question", was a pleasant alternative.

Ton Willemsse.

REPORT OF THE E.S.V.D./G.E.D.A.C. MEETING - PARIS, DEC. 1986

This meeting of the E.S.V.D. was held in conjunction with the 11th congress of the World Small Animal Veterinary Association, December 4th 1986 in Paris. About 140 colleagues registered for the meeting, originating from a large number of european as well as non-european countries. Even one veterinarian attended the meeting, coming from Uruguay !

The E.S.V.D. was proud to welcome dr. Robert Kirk (Cornell University, U.S.A.), a honorary member of the society.

Topics included:

- * miliary dermatitis - a feline cutaneous reaction pattern, dr. Robert Kirk (U.S.A.)
- * melanin pigmentation disorders in canine and feline dermatology - dr. Eric Guaguere and dr. Zaineb Alhaidari (France)
- * essential fatty acid supplementation and dermatitis in the dog and in the cat - dr. David Lloyd (United Kingdom) and
- * differential diagnosis of pustular dermatosis in the dog and in the cat - dr. Ton Willemsse (The Netherlands).

During the next three days of the W.S.A.V.A. congress a lot of lectures and seminars were given about dermatological problems by e.g. Peter Ihrke (U.S.A.) and dr. Richard Halliwell (U.S.A.).

DERMATOLOGY WAS ONE OF THE MAIN TOPICS OF THE W.S.A.V.A. !!!

Didier Carlotti.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

May 8-9, 1987 : A two-days dermatology programme in collaboration with Tufts University (U.S.A.) and the C.N.V.S.P.A. (France). Dr. Stephen White will be the main speaker and he will talk about nutrition and the skin, atopy, endocrine dermatoses, new therapies and many other subjects.

The seminar will be held at Talloires (Fr). For more information please contact: GEDAC CNVSPA, Place Leon Blum, F-75011 Paris.

June 27-28, 1987: 4th congress of the E.S.V.D. - Bern
Topics: equine dermatology, mycotic diseases in companion animals, new forms of therapy, zoonotic skin diseases, drug eruptions, nodular skin diseases in cats, new aspects of pathogenesis of the eosinophilic granuloma complex and free communications.

Main speakers: dr. Tony Stannard (Davis, USA)
dr. R. Thomsett (London)
dr. med. L. Zala (Bern)
dr. B. Bigler (Bern).

Congress fee: June 27th only - non-members
SFr. 170.-, members Sfr. 130.-
Both days - non-members
SFr. 270.-, members Sfr. 200.-

Hotel reservations must be made before May, 1st, 1987.

Registration forms and detailed information can be obtained from:
E.S.V.D. - congress
Institut fur Tierpathologie
Postfach 2735
CH-3001 BERN.

Aug 31st -

Sept 4th, 1987 : Workshop on Veterinary Dermatopathology, organized by the E.S.V.D. - London.
A 5-day course for pathologists and clinical dermatologists with a special interest in dermatopathology.
Course tutors: dr. Thelma Lee Gross (USA)
dr. Emily Walder (USA)
dr. Claudia von Tscharner (Switzerland).

Further details can be obtained from:
dr. David Lloyd
Royal Veterinary College
Royal College Street
London NW1 0TU, U.K.

Nov 27-29th, 1987: Dermatology seminars during the annual congress of the C.N.V.S.P.A., Paris.
Further information through:
C.N.V.S.P.A.,
10, Place Leon Blum
F-75011 Paris.

GENERAL INFORMATION

During the last board meeting of the E.S.V.D., held December 4th, 1986 in Paris, the idea gained ground to initiate the formation of a dermatology newsletter, in which information should be included especially dedicated to the field of veterinary dermatology and allergology.

This newsletter should also contain letters from members with questions or remarks on dermatology cases etc.. The board wishes to invite members to apply for the editorship of this newsletter.

Please contact dr. Ton Willemsse, State University of Utrecht, Small Animal Clinic, Dept. Dermatology, Yalelaan 8, 3584 CM Utrecht, the Netherlands or phone 09-31-30-531683.

DERMATOLOGY PUBLICATIONS

We have made a selection of dermatology reports, which may be of interest to the members of our society. You have to realize that only a small part of all publications, which has been published in 1986, can be reviewed in this chapter of the annual report. If one of the articles seems to be of extra interest for you, you are advised to read the original publication.

Willard, M.D. et al.: Am. J. Vet. Res. 47(12): 2510-2513, 1986
Effect of long-term administration of ketoconazole in cats.

Four cats given ketoconazole (30 mg/kg/day) for 30 days developed dry hair coats and weight loss. Plasma cortisol and serum cholesterol, testosterone, and progesterone did not change significantly ($P > 0.01$), and significant alterations in serum albumin, calcium, and alkaline phosphatase ($P < 0.01$) did not preclude use of the drug. Serum testosterone concentrations tended to decrease after 7 days of treatment, but in 2 cats returned to near-pretreatment values by day 30 of treatment, despite continued drug administration. These results were in contrast to those reported in the dog at similar and lesser dosages of ketoconazole.

Kuwahara, J.: Am. J. Vet. Res. 47(10): 2300-2308, 1986.
Canine and feline aural hematoma: clinical, experimental, and clinicopathologic observations.

The pathogenesis of canine and feline aural hematoma (AH) was investigated. Clinical observations, selected experimental procedures, and clinicopathologic examinations were done on 40 dogs and 20 cats with AH. The results of this investigation provide a valid basis for questioning the conventionally held view that AH is caused by trauma and for postulating that the actual cause is immune mediated.

McDougal, B.J.: Mod. Vet. Practice 629-633, 1986.
Allergy testing and hyposensitization for 3 common feline dermatoses.

In a clinical trial involving 13 cats with eosinophilic granuloma complex, miliary dermatitis or psychogenic dermatitis, 69% had a good response to hyposensitization, 23% had a moderate response and 8% had a poor response. All cats with eosinophilic granuloma complex or miliary dermatitis, and 5 of 6 with psychogenic dermatitis, had a good or moderate response to hyposensitization. Though atopy and the presence of reaginic antibody, have not been documented in cats, the results of this trial suggest that hyposensitization may benefit cats with these dermatoses.

Wilcock, B.P. et al.: Vet. Pathol. 23: 320-324, 1986.
The morphology and behavior of feline cutaneous mastocytomas.

Correlation of histopathology with the behavior of cutaneous mastocytomas in 85 cats revealed two distinct histologic subtypes which were predictive of biologic behavior. The first subtype comprised 65 cats of various breeds which had solitary, discrete dermal tumors composed of slightly atypical mast cells. Most tumors in this group were histologically and behaviorally benign. However, seven solitary tumors with marked anisocytosis and mitotic activity recurred or spread to other sites within 2 to 3 months. The second subtype occurred in 18 cats which had discrete subcutaneous nodules composed primarily of histiocyte-like cells with equivocal cytoplasmic granularity after staining with toluidine blue. They were identified as mast cells by electron microscopy. Seventeen of the 18 cats were Siamese. The histiocytic mastocytomas occurred predominantly in young cats (< 4 years) and were usually multiple. In the four cats of this group for which we have prolonged follow-up data, the tumors underwent apparently spontaneous regression within 2 years of initial tumor detection. Two other cats had tumors which contained mixtures of mast cells and histiocytic morphologies.

Gross, T.L. et al.: J. Am. Vet. Med. Assoc. 189(10):
1322-1325, 1986.

Correlation of histologic and immunologic findings in cats with miliary dermatitis.

Eighteen cats with miliary dermatitis were evaluated, using skin testing and histology. Sixteen cats had allergic skin disease (14 cats had positive skin test reactions to flea antigen [two of which were also atopic], one was atopic only, and one was allergic to beef). In the two remaining cats, the cause of miliary dermatitis was not identified. Histologically, 17 of the cats had superficial eosinophilic dermatitis and epidermal spongiosis, crusting and ulceration, which were compatible with an allergic cause. Four of these cats had concurrent eosinophilic plaques, which histologically resembled miliary lesions. This overlap of plaques with miliary lesions indicated that when plaques and miliary dermatitis are found concurrently, both lesions may be caused by the same allergens.

Zaror, L. et al.: Mykosen 29(4): 185-188, 1986.

The role of cats and dogs in the epidemiological cycle of *Microsporum canis*.

M. canis was isolated from 88% of 104 and 8% of 126 healthy domestic cats and dogs, respectively. *M. gypseum*, *Trichophyton mentagrophytes* and *T. keratinomyces ajelloi* were also isolated from cats, and *M. gypseum* from dogs.

Ohlen,B. et al.: Canine Practice 13(2): 6-10, 1986.
Zinc-responsive dermatitis in puppies.

Sixty puppies of different breeds were treated for zinc-responsive dermatitis with zinc sulphate at 1-2 mg Zn per kg bodyweight daily orally for 2-8 weeks. Plasma zinc values of 7-34 micromol/l and alkaline phosphatase values of 2.5-4.4 microkat/l were recorded in three affected puppies. The 2mg/kg dosage caused emesis in some puppies. Responses occurred after 1-2 weeks of treatment, and the condition did not recur when the animals were returned to the original diet. As this contained 35-70 mg/kg Zn, it is suggested that dietary phytate and the metabolic demands of the growing puppy played a role.

Rosenhagen,D. et al.: Kleintierpraxis 31(3): 131-132, 1986.
Intradermal testing with allergens in 112 dogs. A set of inhalant allergens, including pollens, house dust, house dustmite, fleas and epidermals, was used in 112 dogs with pruritus or skin disease of unknown etiology. A positive reaction, mostly to several allergens, occurred in 80 animals, including all of those with pruritus and 60 cases in which the itch was accompanied by chronic dermatitis. Most of the reactions occurred to human dandruff and only 19 reacted to flea allergen.

Fadok, V. et al.: J.Am.Vet.Med.Assoc. 188(9):1058-59, 1986.
Hyperprogesteronemia associated with Sertoli cell tumor and alopecia in a dog.

Hyperprogesteronemia was found in a dog with alopecia and Sertoli cell tumour. Alopecia began in the lumbar areas; the entire coat was dull and dry, and epilated easily. The only laboratory abnormalities were high serum progesterone concentration and incomplete suppression of cortisol after low-dose dexamethasone administration. The hair regrew after castration, and the progesterone concentration decreased toward normal.

Broek,A.H. van den et al.: J.small Anim.Pract.27(5):313-323, 1986.

Skin disease in dogs associated with zinc deficiency: a report of five cases.

Skin lesions in 5 Labrador retrievers associated with Zn deficiency were a dry coat, mild generalized seborrhoea sicca, and bilaterally symmetrical, focal, yellow crusts and scales over the distal parts of limbs and chin. Ceruminous otitis externa and superficial lymphomegaly were also present. Serum and hair Zn values were below normal. All the dogs were fed an unsupplemented cereal-based diet with some milk. Treatment with ZnSO₄ at a dosage of 10 mg/kg daily for

2 weeks in the food resolved the physical signs and increased serum Zn values to normal. It is suggested that dietary imbalance rather than absolute Zn deficiency caused the condition, although there may have been an inherent defect in Zn absorption.

Scott, D.W. et al.: Hyposomatotropism in the mature dog. *J.Am.Anim.Hosp.Assoc.* 22(4): 467-473, 1986.

Adult onset hyposomatotropism (growth hormone responsive dermatosis or pseudo-Cushings syndrome) was diagnosed in 22 dogs. Male Pomeranians, Chow-chows, and Keeshonds were found to be predisposed. The dermatosis was characterized by symmetrical trunkal alopecia, with or without hyperpigmentation, in otherwise healthy dogs. Diagnosis was confirmed by the measurement of plasma growth hormone levels before and after the intravenous administration of xylazine. Bovine growth hormone was effective for treatment, but ovine GH was not.

Thomson, M.K. et al.: *Nordisk Vet.med.* 38(3):129-147, 1986. Contact dermatitis in the dog.

The European Standard Series of haptens was applied to the clipped and cleansed dorsum of the dog, firmly secured, and evaluated after 48 hours. The patch test was utilized in 51 dogs among 439 dermatological patients over a 2-year period, and revealed the presence of an allergic contact dermatitis, most often to rubber constituents, in 22 cases.

Schein, E. et al.: *Praktische Tierarzt* 67(8):670-672, 1986. Control of flea infestation in the dog by using "Tiguvon-Spot-on".

Eleven Beagles experimentally infested with *Cten. felis* and 146 dogs naturally infested were treated with the Tiguvon 20 formulation of fenitrothion by applying the contents of one or two ampules to the skin of the back. Treatment protected dogs from re-infestation for a month, which was recommended as the best interval between subsequent treatments. It offered an alternative to flea collars.

Rosenkrantz, W.S. et al.: *J.Am.Anim.Hosp.Assoc.* 22: 577-584, 1986. Histopathological evaluation of acid mucopolysaccharide (mucine) in canine discoid lupus erythematosus.

This study examined the presence of mucin and its distribution in lesions of canine discoid LE. The results suggest that the presence of increased amounts of mucin in the dermis, epidermis, or both can be used as an additional diagnostic test in the evaluation of lupus-like dermatoses in the canine.

Briggs, O.M. et al.: J. Am. Anim. Hosp. Assoc. 22: 611-614, 1986.
Color mutant alopecia in a blue Italian Greyhound.

The ventral trunk was completely alopecic, and the dorsum and sides exhibited hypotrichosis and scaliness. A skin biopsy confirmed the inactive hair follicles and in addition showed hyperpigmentation and follicular hyperkeratosis. Similar cases in other breeds reported are listed and a classification of inherited alopecias is given.

Hargis, A.M. et al.: Vet. Pathol. 23:509-511, 1986.
Post-mortem findings in a Shetland Sheepdog with dermatomyositis.

Lesions in the Sheltie described were similar to those of familial dermatomyositis in collies. The cutaneous lesions first developed at 2 month of age. The distribution of the cutaneous lesions was similar to that in collies; that is, in the skin of the ears, face, lips, and distal extremities of the body including the tip of the tail. Lesions consisted of scaling, erythema, alopecia, hyperpigmentation, hypopigmentation and ulceration. As in collies, myositis was most severe in the muscles of mastication and was detected in two muscles below the elbow and stifle. It has been suggested that the pathogenesis of canine dermatomyositis may involve the cooler temperature of the ears, face, distal limbs, and tip of the tail. Arterial and neuronal changes were present in more severely affected temporalis and masseter muscles and were similar to those described in collies.

White, S.: J. Am. Vet. Med. Assoc. 188(7): 695-698, 1986.
Food hypersensitivity in 30 dogs.

Clinical signs of food hypersensitivity varied, with pruritus (97%), erythema (50%), and papules (37%) being the most common. Diagnosis was based on resolution of clinical signs when the dogs were fed a restricted hypoallergenic diet, and recurrence of signs when fed their original diet or other foods.

Mansfield, P.D. et al.: J. Am. Anim. Hosp. Assoc. 22:515-518, 1986
The effects of megestrol acetate treatment on plasma glucose concentration and insulin response to glucose administration in cats.

In this study the effects of megestrol acetate on plasma glucose and insulin concentrations were evaluated in 8 healthy cats. Megestrol acetate (1 mg/kg) given on alternate days for 3 weeks did not alter the pattern of plasma glucose or insulin concentrations in response to i.v. glucose administration. This dose and duration of treatment is recommended to treat certain dermatological disorders and has been suggested as a cause of diabetes mellitus in cats. Further, this dose has been shown previously to cause adrenocortical suppression.

Knowles,D.P. et al.: Vet. Pathol. 23: 512-514, 1986.
Solar elastosis associated with neoplasia in two Dalmatians.

Solar elastosis, also referred to as actinic elastosis is a term frequently used to describe changes in skin which develop after prolonged exposure to the sun's rays. Solar elastosis is histologically characterized by altered dermal elastic tissue. This alteration is recognized as basophilia and thickening of elastic fibers in a HE-stained section. In this report two cases of solar elastosis in the skin of older dogs in which altered elastic fibers were associated with cutaneous tumors (hemangioma and squamous cell carcinoma), are described. The fact that such altered elastic fibers were identified in nonpigmented or sparsely haired areas in older dogs suggests that solar radiation may have been involved in the pathogenesis of tumor development.

Couto,C.G. et al.: J.Am.Anim.Hosp.Assoc. 22: 374-379, 1986.
Chronic lymphocytic leukemia with cutaneous involvement in a dog.

A four-year-old male English bulldog presented for evaluation of a chronic, pruritic skin disorder was diagnosed as having chronic lymphocytic leukemia with cutaneous involvement on the basis of persistent peripheral blood lymphocytosis, increased numbers of bone marrow lymphocytes, and perivascular cutaneous infiltration by well-differentiated lymphocytes. Other clinical features included the presence of monoclonal IgA gammopathy and refractoriness to conventional therapy.

Utah Cox,H. et al.: Am.J.Vet.Res. 47(9): 1881-1884, 1986.
Protein A in *Staphylococcus intermedius* isolates from dogs and cats.

The presence and quantity of extracellular and cell-bound protein A of *St. intermedius* isolates from dogs and cats were determined, using an enzyme-linked immunoglobulin-binding assay. Horseradish peroxidase-conjugated rabbit anti-bovine IgG purified by affinity chromatography was reacted with whole cell and supernatant fractions of *St.intermedius* (n=139), a protein A producing strain of *St.aureus*, and a protein A-deficient strain of *St.epidermidis*. Extracellular protein A was found in 118 (84.9%) of 139 isolates of *St.intermedius*. Most (58.8%) of these isolates produced > 0.2 microgram of extracellular protein A/ml. Cell-bound protein A was found in 4.3% of 139 isolates. Additionally, > 96% of extracellular protein A could be removed from supernatants by absorption with agarose gel containing IgG.

Scott,D.W.: J.Am.Anim.Hosp.Assoc. 22: 631-634, 1986.
Granulomatous sebaceous adenitis in dogs.

Granulomatous sebaceous adenitis was diagnosed in 3 dogs. The dogs were adult males of different breeds. The dermatosis was characterized by severe, generalized seborrhoea sicca which was unresponsive to symptomatic therapy. Skin biopsy revealed granulomatous inflammation and destruction of sebaceous glands. Weekly emollient rinses were effective only partially for controlling the dryness and scaling in two dogs.

MEMBERSHIP E.S.V.D.

As a member of the European Society of Veterinary Dermatology you are kindly requested to send your annual fee of 40 ECU.

This amount has to be paid by international transfer to the following bank account: 30004 0031 07424580 56,
BNP Bordeaux-Bastide France.

To send to dr. Didier Carlotti, E.S.V.D. treasurer
Les Places, Sainte Eulalie
F 33560 Carbon-Blanc.

Pierre Fourrier,
membership secretary.