

Osteoma in Two Young Dogs

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Osteoma is a frequently observed tumor in the human. It is not common in the dog. This report describes osteoma of the cranium in a 14-month-old Doberman pinscher, and of the distal humerus in an 11-month-old Irish setter. Both tumors were clinically diagnosed and successfully removed surgically. Differentiating the benign bone tumor from the malignant variety obviated amputation or euthanasia.

Introduction

There is a paucity of clinical information and references in the veterinary literature relating to the bone tumor, osteoma. Reports of primary bone tumors in the dog offer limited information pertaining to osteoma^{7,8} or no comments at all.^{3,4}

One recent survey of 133 selected primary bone tumors in the dog noted only eight osteomas (6%).⁶ All eight of the osteomas were confined to the skull and mandible and five (63%) were in dogs three years of age or younger. There was no sex predilection. The study covered a 23-year period.

In man, osteoma of the head and extremities is noted frequently, often as an incidental finding on survey radiographs.^{1,2} The tumor requires surgical extirpation when normal function is impeded or pain is present.⁹ The greatest frequency is in young adult males.⁵

Case Histories

Case 1 — The patient was a 14-month-old male Doberman pinscher. There was a rapidly growing, smooth, hard mass involving the bones of the left zygomatic arch. Over a period of six weeks, the mass had grown to 5.0 cm by 7.0 cm in size. The dog was exhibiting a deleterious behavioral change. The mass was not sensitive.

Radiography revealed a solitary dense mass involving only the facial and temporal zygomatic bones. It did not appear invasive [Figure 2]. Radiographically the thorax was normal. The tumor was surgically removed and there was no recurrence during a six-month observation period.^a Histopathologically, the tumor was classified as an osteoma.^b

Case 2 — The patient was an 11-month-old neutered female Irish setter. She had been lame on her right forelimb for three weeks at the time of initial examination. Although this was the first observed episode of lameness, there was disuse atrophy of the muscles of the

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