CONGENITAL DIABETIC CATARACT IN PUPS

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Congenital Bilateral Cataract associated with diabetes mellitus in three young pups belonging to different small dog breeds has been recorded and thoroughly discussed. This condition should be kept in mind of Veterinary Clinicians during routine check-up of pups, specially of small breeds.

Introduction
Cataract is the focal or diffuse opacification of the lens as a result of degeneration and ultimately liquefaction of normal protein structure of lens fibres. Out of multifactorial cause of cataract in dog, diabetes mellitus is the commonest (Kirk, 1983); and Diabetes is the most common endocrinopathy in dogs (Prathaban and Gnanaprekasam, 2002), specially amongst small breed (Nelson and Couto, 1998). This study deals with the detection of congenital bilateral cataract associated with diabetes mellitus in three young pups.

Case History and Observations
One and half month old two female Lhasa Apso pups and a two month old male Spitz Pup were presented by three different owners in three occasions with the similar history of repeated stumbling with objects. Clinical examination revealed bilateral bluish cloudy appearance of the lens of the eye; vision becomes blurred and sluggishness was noticed in all the pups. On the basis of clinical examination, the pups were suspected to be suffering from cataract as well as Diabetes mellitus which were later confirmed as hyperglycemia (236 mg/dl, 242 mg/dl, 278 mg/dl respectively) in fasting blood samples. Analysis of urine samples revealed pH6.7-6.8, specific gravity 1.010, and glucose (++). All the urine samples were found negative for bilirubin, ketone bodies, protein, blood, urobilinogen etc. Primary renal glycosuria was differentiated on the basis of moderate hyperglycemia. Surgical extraction of lens was advised to all the owners with life time antidiabetic therapy and restricted diet.

Result and Discussion
Surprisingly, all the owners did not cooperate and further treatment could not be continued and later one of the owners opted for euthanasia.

References

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