

EAR MITE INFESTATION IN A BEAGLE- A CASE REPORT

Vishnurahav R. B¹, Usha Narayana Pillai², Ajithkumar. S and Alex P. C

Department of Clinical Veterinary Medicine,
College of Veterinary & Animal Sciences, Mannuthy.
Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Pookode, Wayanad.

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ABSTRACT

Ear mite infestation is one of the primary ear diseases of dogs and is common in young puppies. A six months old male Beagle dog was presented to the Teaching Veterinary Clinical Complex, Mannuthy with the history of head shaking and reddish lesions in the ear. Clinical examination revealed erythematous lesions with coffee coloured cerumin in the ear canal. Sterile ear swab was used to collect cerumin and it was processed with 10% KOH. Microscopic examination of the 10% KOH processed cerumin under low power revealed the presence of ear mite *Otodectes cynotis*. Based on the history, clinical signs and laboratory examination, the condition was diagnosed as *Otodectes cynotis* ear mite infestation. The animal was successfully treated with ivermectin and was supported with syrup immunol @ 2ml PO BID.

INTRODUCTION

Otodectes cynotis is one of the most common primary ear infestation of dogs and cats especially puppies and kittens caused by non-burrowing psoroptic mite that lives and feeds on skin and ear. The host range extends up to foxes, ferrets and sometimes humans. It is gaining importance because of its highly contagious and

zoonotic in nature (Miller *et al.* 2013)

CASE HISTORY AND CLINICAL FINDINGS

A six months old male Beagle dog was presented to the Teaching Veterinary Clinical Complex, Mannuthy with the history of head shaking and reddish lesions in the ear for more than a week. Clinical examination of the dog revealed erythematous lesions with coffee coloured cerumin in the ear canal. Sterile ear swab was used to collect cerumin and it was processed with 10% KOH. Microscopic examination of the 10% KOH processed cerumin under low power revealed the presence of parasitic ova and adult ear mite of *Otodectes cynotis*.

TREATMENT

The dog was treated with two injections of Ivermectin @ 200mcg/kg body weight 14 days interval and was supported with syrup immunol @ 2ml PO BID. Dog showed clinical improvement after two days. The dog had uneventful recovery after two weeks.

DISCUSSION

Otodectes cynotis nourishes on tissue liquid and epidermal debris from the superficial epidermis. The life cycle goes on for 21 days. Off host survival time least of twelve days. Coffee ground appearance of ceruminous discharge was common presenting

signs in *Otodectes cyanotis* infestation and became purulent with auxiliary bacterial contaminations like staphylococcus and pseudomonas and so forth (Miller *et al.* 2013). The feline assumes a key part in transmission of ear parasite in grown-up canines, rabbit and ferrets (Sasikala *et al.*, 2011). Because of pruritis stamped self-mutilated trauma and hot spots over the external ear pinnae and may lead to aural haematoma. Ectopic infestations are conceivable in felines and basically manifested as papular crested eruptions in neck, rump and tail. History, clinical signs, Otoscopy and microscopic examination of ceruminous wax from ear and superficial scrappings were valuable in diagnosing this condition. Clinical signs and examination of ceruminous wax were useful in diagnosing this condition. Treatment should be carried out not only in affected animal but all animals in contact. Mild ceruminolytic agents should be used before other topical ear medications will ensure high penetration. Some of the drugs were used as extra label purpose for treating ear mite infestation which includes 10% fipronil

solution 2 drops into the ear twice weekly for 3–4 weeks and 1% injectable ivermectin diluted 1:9 with propylene glycol 2–4 drops into the ear daily for 3-4 weeks. Ivermectin 0.3 mg/kg po, scevery 10 days for 3 applications and moxidectin (dogs) 0.2 mg/kg po every 10 days for 3 applications (Sue Patterson, 2008).

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