

## SEBACEOUS ADENOMA IN A DOG - A CASE REPORT

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Sebaceous gland tumors are the most common epithelial skin tumors in dogs. It accounts for 6 per cent of canine cutaneous tumors (Noxon and Morrison, 1997). Sebaceous gland tumors represent a complex array of growths that can be divided into four groups based on histological appearance. In the decreasing frequency, these are sebaceous hyperplasia, sebaceous epithelioma, sebaceous adenoma and sebaceous adenocarcinoma. Usually, sebaceous adenoma may be single or multiple and usually greater than one centimeter in diameter. The present article describes a case of sebaceous gland adenoma in a Cocker Spaniel dog.

### Case history and treatment

A nine year old male Cocker Spaniel dog was presented at Veterinary College hospital, Mannuthy, Thrissur with a complaint of small round cauliflower like growth measuring about 2x2x1 (w x l x h) cm in size on the lower side of neck (Figure 1). The growth was moderate to firm in consistency, and did not elicit pain or itching. The tumor mass was surgically excised and the cut surface of the tumor mass appeared solid. The sample was sent for histopathological examination. All other clinical parameters were within the normal range.

### Results and discussion

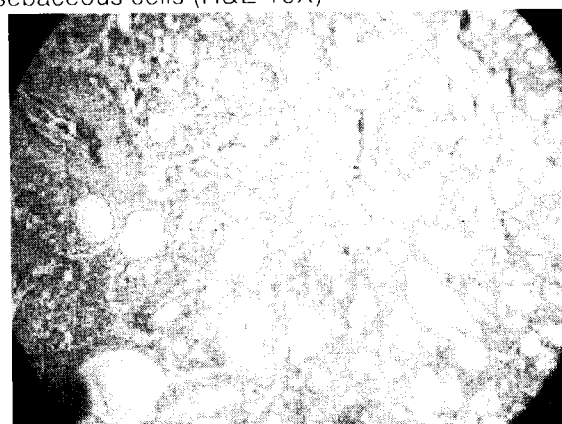
Results of histopathological examination of the tumor mass showed lobules of cells separated by thick hyalinised band of fibrocollagenous tissues. These lobules were composed of both basaloid and mature sebaceous cells. Squamous cell differentiation with keratinization and horn cyst like areas were seen. Some areas showed squamous metaplasia and few keratin nests were also observed. Stroma showed dense infiltration by lymphocytes, plasma cells and polymorphs. There was no evidence of malignancy and the condition was diagnosed as sebaceous adenoma. (Figure 2)

Microscopically, it is not easy to distinguish sebaceous adenoma from sebaceous hyperplasia. However, the macroscopic features of sebaceous adenomas are often characteristic. Sebaceous adenomas are usually single, multiple or papillated and larger than one centimeter in diameter. Sebaceous adenomas are usually less lobulated while sebaceous hyperplasia is commonly papillated and only two to five mm in diameter (Thomas and Fox, 2002). In the case described here, the tumor was more than one cm in diameter and this macroscopic feature can be used as a diagnostic tool for distinguishing sebaceous adenoma from hyperplasia. Sebaceous adenomas

Figure 1: Small round cauliflower like growth on the lower side of neck



Figure 2: Sebaceous lobules, basaloid cells and sebaceous cells (H&E 10X)



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can occur anywhere on the body, but are most commonly found on head, thorax and abdomen (Muller et. al., 2001). The exact etiology of sebaceous gland tumors is not known. It is supposed that hormonal dysfunction plays a significant role in their development. Certain breeds of dogs like Cocker Spaniels, Huskies, Samoyeds and Alaskan malamutes are found to be predisposed to sebaceous gland tumors. Histopathological features observed in the present case were in agreement with the observations made by Ozgur et.al. (2005).

Sebaceous adenomas are usually not clinically significant unless they become pruritic, bleed after laceration or are aesthetically unpleasant to the owner. Occasionally, the dogs lick or chew at the lesion even though they are usually not pruritic. Treatment includes surgical excision of the tumor and often results in uneventful healing.

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