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Nasal transmissible venereal tumor: a case report

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Canine transmissible venereal tumor (TVT) is a neoplasms of round cells or mesenchymal. TVT is a well–documented transplantable tumor in dogs and venereal transmission more common. The exfoliation and transplantation of neoplastic cells during physical contact provide the main mode of transmission onto genital mucosa, and also onto nasal or oral mucosa, during mating or licking of affected genitalia, respectively [1]. The loss of mucosal integrity favors transmission [2]. This report describes a male about 6 years old undefined breed with nasal TVT. This dog, previously diagnosed with sinusitis, was being treated with antibiotics for months. After six months, the owner sought the veterinary hospital of the Northern State University Fluminense Darcy Ribeiro. The animal had as clinical signs inspiratory dyspnea, open mouth breathing, nasal and eye purulent discharge but there wasn’t epistaxis bilateral. On physical examination there was a mass in nasal region. The animal was submitted to plain radiography of paranasal sinuses that demonstrated a slight osteolysis and opacification of paranasal sinuses suggestive of chronic sinusitis or neoplasms of the soft tissues. Definitive diagnosis was based on cytological findings typical of TVT in exfoliated cells obtained by fine-needle aspiration ³. Hematological parameters, liver profile and renal function showed no changes. The animal was treated with vincristine sulfate at a dose of 0.025 mg / kg intravenously weekly for 8 weeks, a total of eight applications and cephalexin 20mg/Kg BID during eight weeks for treatment of sinusitis. Weekly complete blood counts were performed and cytology nasal. After the first week, the animal already had improved respiratory condition. At 6 weeks of treatment cytology did not show the presence of more TVT cells however the treatment was continued for two more weeks. The animal has been followed for 3 years and did not present clinical signs of more TVT.