

Angiomatous lesions in the skin of dogs in Grenada, West Indies

A. Chikweto, M. I. Bhaiyat, R. Sharma, C. de Allie, P. E. McNeil

Journal of Commonwealth Veterinary Association, 25 (1), pp. 29-31.

Abstract

This paper summarises part of a wider, retrospective, study of cutaneous tumours in dogs that were referred to the School of Veterinary Medicine, St. George's University, Grenada over a six year period. In a series of over 160 cases, more than 15% proved to be tumours of vascular origin, the highest among all tumours in frequency. The clinical presentation ranged from small, often multiple, foci to large, discrete, usually ulcerated masses. Histologically, the lesions could be classified into three main groups; angiomas, haemangiomas and haemangiosarcomas. The main sites involved were the trunk and the limbs. Other sites were the head, the prepuce and the scrotum. The majority of affected dogs were local mixed breeds ('Grenadian pothound') with short hair coats. Males and females were equally represented but, in general, the angiomatous lesions and haemangiomas were found in a younger age group than the haemangiosarcomas. Our hypothesis is that the prevalence of vascular tumours in dogs in Grenada is related to a combination of genetic predisposition and sun exposure.