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Superficial keratectomy with allgerbrush in a dog with pigmented keratosis

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Abstract

Introduction: Pigmented keratosis is a condition caused by chronical irritation and inflammation of the eyes. The accumulation of melanine granules in cornea leads to a dark coloration (black-brown) in the area. While pigmented keratosis is very common in dogs, it rarely occurs in cats. Susceptibility of breeds in dogs is an important factor in the formation of the disease. For instance, occurrence of the disease increases in the brachiocephalic dog breeds. The main cause of the disease is considered to be the dry eye syndrome. Other causes include entropium, ectropium, abnormality in eyelashes, the conditions in which the eye orbit is exposed due to problems in eyelids, chronical corneal inflammation, and corneal ulceration.

Case: Here we present a 6 years old male pug with pigmented keratosis. The owner reported that the dog was bumping into surroundings during walking. As a result of the examination, pigmented keratosis was observed to be infiltrated in the cornea in both eyes. Schirmer test results were lower than 10 mm/min in both eyes. For the treatment, superficial keratectomy was applied with an allgerbrush, followed by dry eye treatment as the standard of care.

Conclusion: Standard medical care of pigmented keratosis may be effective after a prolonged period of time. However, the prolonged time of healing over several months may bring high risks, such as blindness. Surgical intervention with an allgerbrush shortens the time of healing and thus leads to finer results when compared to standard medical care. The risk of relapse was eliminated after surgery when the preventive measures against chronical corneal inflammation were taken.

Keywords: Pigmented keratosis, Allgerbrush, Keratectomy, Dog

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