



International VETEXPO-2019 Veterinary Sciences Congress  
September 20-22 2019. Double Tree by Hilton Hotel, Avcilar /Istanbul, Turkey

Poster presentation

**Corticosteroid as a possible cause of polycystic ovaries and consequent cystic endometrial hyperplasia CEH-Pyometra in a terrier dog (a case report)**

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**Abstract**

Most common ovarian diseases in the bitch appear to be cystic ovarian disease (COD) or ovarian tumors. Also, the CEH-pyometra complex is one of the most serious and most common uterine diseases in bitches. Corticosteroids have been reported as a cause of cystic follicles in cows by suppressing LH surge, but this is not reported as a cause of polycystic ovary syndrome in bitch. The aim of this study is to prompt that corticosteroids may cause polycystic ovaries in bitch. A 11-year-old female terrier dog was presented to a private small animal clinic with a history of itching and red patches on her skin. On the basis of clinical signs and hematological tests, hypersensitivity condition was diagnosed by the vet and treated by a dose of parenteral dexamethasone. Based on the owner's claim, the clinical signs subsided for a while, but the signs relapsed after about 4 months. The owner referred the case to the same clinic and the vet prescribed another parenteral dexamethasone. The signs of itching and red patches on her skin subsides again, but a few days later the signs of hyperestrogenism was seen by the owner. Two weeks later, the bitch was presented to the small animal hospital (Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Tehran) with the signs suspected to CEH-Pyometra complex. The bitch was depressed and anorectic, so an abdominal ultrasonography, vaginal smear and hematological tests were taken. Ultrasonographic findings showed bilateral polycystic ovaries (max. size, 1.13 cm) plus CEH-Pyometra complex. As the previous abdominal ultrasonography had not shown any disorders in the reproductive tract, we suspected to corticosteroid (dexamethasone) as the primary cause of polycystic ovaries which could lead to CEH-Pyometra complex. This is the first report of corticosteroid as a possible cause of polycystic ovaries in dogs.

**Keywords:** *Corticosteroid, bitch, COD, CEH-pyometra*

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