Long-term management of cystic benign prostatic hyperplasia in a valuable breeding dog
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Benign prostate hypertrophy (BPH) is the most common condition of the canine prostate. The recommended treatment for this condition is castration, but in valuable stud dogs, we look at options that allow us to preserve fertility while alleviating clinical signs. This case shows successful management of a dog with Cystic BPH to maintain fertility.

A 3-year old male intact Rottweiler presented with hematuria, dripping blood from the prepuce, and diarrhea. Diagnostics performed included physical examination, abdominal radiographs, complete blood count, serum chemistry, and urinalysis. After urinary tract and coagulation disorders were ruled out, manual semen collection was performed. Physical examination and radiographs revealed a slightly enlarged, non-painful prostate. Prostatic fluid was analyzed with culture and sensitivity, with results ruling out infections and inflammatory conditions. Ciprofloxacin was administered and signs subsided. With later recurrent episodes of tenesmus and ribbon-like stool, ultrasound of the caudal abdomen and prostate was performed. This analysis allowed for the definitive diagnosis of cystic BPH. Ultrasound showed multiple hypoechoic areas within the prostate parenchyma. Additionally, ultrasound evaluation revealed a large paraprostatic cyst in the right caudodorsal abdomen. Approximately 90 mL of yellow-tinged fluid was drained from the paraprostatic cyst, and clinical signs subsided temporarily. Over time, the signs returned and the paraprostatic cyst was removed surgically.

After removal of the paraprostatic cyst, ultrasound was performed at regular intervals to monitor the size of the prostatic cysts within the parenchyma. With continued use of finasteride, the size of the prostate remained static over several years. Several semen collections for shipment or freezing were performed subsequent to surgery and treatment with finasteride, demonstrating continued fertility. Thus, good control of clinical signs related to cystic BPH was achieved, allowing the patient to remain intact for further breeding use.

Keywords: Benign prostatic hyperplasia, prostate disease, cyst, finasteride

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