J Vet Clin Vol. 23, No. 2(Suppl.) November (2006)

Aortic Valvular Dysplasia with Bundle Branch Block in a Labrador Retriever Dog

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Introduction: Heart valvular dysplasia is a congenital defect which in dogs and cats affects the aortic, pulmonary, mitral, and tricuspid heart valves. Dysplasia of the heart valves can cause leakage (regurgitation) of blood or stenosis. Aortic valvular dysplasia is rarely reported and is suggested as inherited in the Labrador Retriever.

Material and methods: A 10-month-old intact Male Labrador Retreiver was presented at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Kangwon National University with signs of exercise intolerance, especially after vigorous exercise.

Results: The dog showed split S1 and IV/VI grade diastolic regurgitant murmur at the left apex and base. ECG finding was normal sinus rhythm at rest, but supraventricular tachycardia with bundle branch block after exercise. Diagnostic imaging studies found aortic dilation, dysplastic aortic valve and mild aortic regurgitation. No significant cardiac remodeling has been occurred yet. Based on those findings, we diagnosed this case as aortic valvular dysplasia with bundle branch block.

Clinical relevance: This is the first case of aortic valvular dysplasia with conduction disturbances in Korea.

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