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Retrospective Study of Corneal Disease of Dogs in Korea (2005)

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Introduction: To determine the prevalence of dog with corneal disease presented to the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital of Seoul National University.

Materials and methods: Eighty-five dogs (128 eyes) with corneal diseases were referred to the ophthalmology clinic at the VMTH of SNU from January to December 2005. Corneal diseases were classified into keratoconjuctivitis sicca (KCS), keratitis, ulcerative keratitis and the other diseases. The corneal diseases were investigated according to breed, age and gender.

Results: The prevalenceof the patient with corneal disease was 26.5% in referred cases. The highest prevalence rated disease was keratitis (n=45). Corneal ulcer (n=42), KCS (n=27), lipidosis (n=12) had a high prevalence rate. The breeds with the highest cataract prevalence included the Shih Tzu (n=46), Pekingese (n=9), Yorkshire Terrier (n=7). Mean age of the dogs was 6.0 ±3.8 years. The gender of the dogs included 40 females, 23 castrated males, 15 males, and 7 spayed females. In keratitis, the most prevalent gender was female (n=14) and the breed with the highest prevalence was Shih Tzu (n=19). Mean age of the dogs with keratitis was 6.2 ±3.2 years. The major cause of keratitis was medial canthal trichiasis (n=21) and distichiasis (n=14). In KCS, the most prevalent gender wasfemale (n=7) and the breed with the highest prevalence was also Shih Tzu (n=9). Mean age of the dogs with KCS was 7.7±3.4 years. Ulcerative keratitis was classified into superficial ulcer (n=20), deep ulcer (n=9), descemetocele (n=6), corneal perforation (n=4) and melting ulcer (n=2). The breed with the highest prevalence was Shih Tzu (n=21), and the main cause of ulceration was trauma (n=9). Mean age of the dogs with corneal ulcer was 5.1±4.6 years.

Clinical relevance: This study could provide general veterinary practitioner with basic data to diagnose corneal disease.

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