A Case of Reflex Dyssynergia in a Rottweiler

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Introduction: Disorder of micturition include both urine retention and urine leakage(incontinence) problems. Reflex dyssynergia or detrusor-urethral dyssynergia results from active contraction of the detrusor without relaxation of the internal or external urethral sphincters. It is observed primarily in large breed male dogs and the cause is usually difficult to determine. Characteristic signs of reflex dyssynergia include a normal or near-normal initiation of voiding followed by a narrowed urine stream. Urine may be delivered in spurts, or flow may be completely distrupted. It is difficult to express urine from the bladder of a dog with reflex dyssynergia. Reflex dyssynergia often responds to pharmacologic management.

Signalment: A 7-year-old intact male Rottweiler dog was presented to the Royal Animal Medical Center with a perineal mass and dysuria.

Results: Serum chemistry, contrast cystourethrogram, ultrasonography and computerized tomography were performed. We found that the perineal mass was Benign prostatic hypertrphy (BPH) through perineal hernia. There is no anatomical urethral obstruction, and urethral catheterization is easy. So, prostatic omentalization and castration were performed. After the operation, he has still disorders of micturition. As a result, this case was diagnosed tentatively as functional urethral obstruction, reflex dyssynergia. He received an alpha-blocker(terazosin 1mg/dog bid), a somatic muscle relaxant(diazepam 4mg/dog tid), cholinergic agent(bethanechol 4mg/dog tid). After 1 month, he was voiding normally.

Clinical relevance: In the case of reflex dyssynergia, administration of an alpha antagonist, as well as muscle relaxants and cholinergic agents, seem to be beneficial.

Key words: micturition, reflex dyssynergia, terazosin, bethanechol.

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