Interdigital Lymphangiography in a Schunauzer Dog with Suspected Infiltrative Lipoma

Hyunjeong Sung, Kidong Eom¹, In Lee², Youngwon Lee³ and Heemyung Park*

BK21 Basic & Diagnostic Veterinary Specialist Program for Animal Diseases and Department of Veterinary Internal Medicine, ¹Radiology and Diagnostic Imaging, College of Veterinary Medicine, Konkuk University, Seoul, Korea, ²Ian Animal Diagnostic Imaging Center, Seoul, Korea, ³Department of Veterinary Radiology, College of Veterinary Medicine, Chungnam National University, Daejon, Korea

Signalment: A 9-year-old, intact female, Schunauzer dog was referred with a thickened left hindlimb. This clinical sign was first noticed 6 months ago. At presentation, the caudal thigh in the left hindlimb was markedly swollen. The enlargement of left popliteal lymph node was detected on palpation. However, the dog did not show painful response or lameness.

Results: On radiography, mass effect was presented caudal to the left femur on lateral view. The mass seemed to be located between biceps femoris, semitendinosus and gracilis muscles. And a large fat opacity mass effect in the left hindlimb was separated from other muscles on Computed-Tomography (CT). There was a region of some linear striations suspected infiltration of muscle. For evaluation of lymphatic vessels of the hindlimb, interdigital lymphangiography was performed. Despite the lymph flow in the left popliteal lymph node was clearly obtained, lymphatic vessels were dislocated laterally induced the large mass. On cytological evaluation of a fine-needle aspirate, the tumor was composed of vacuolated fat cells.

The dog was tentative diagnosed as infiltrative lipoma based on the radiography, direct pedal lymphangiography, CT, and FNA,

Clinical relevance: This case report first describes the diagnostic examination with interdigital lymphangiography of a dog.

Key words: interdigital lymphangiography, dog, infiltrative lipoma

This work was supported by the Korea Science and Engineering Foundation (KOSEF) grant funded by the Koreas government (MEST) (R11-2002-103).