Mycobacteriosis Complicated with Intestinal Ascariasis in a Lineolated Parakeet (Bolborhynchus lineola)

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Signalment: A 2-year-old lineolated parakeet (Bolborhynchus lineola) was presented due to abdominal distention and respiratory distress for two months. Fecal examination showed intestinal ascariasis. Hepatomegaly composed with multifocal hyperechoic lesion and distended intestinal loop were revealed on radiographic and ultrasonographic examinations.

Results: The bird died 2 days following symptomatic therapy. Necropsy examination revealed a pale mottled liver and occulted intestine by adult worms. Positive intracytoplasmic bacilli on Ziel Nielson staining were observed in the liver specimen. Intracytoplasmic bacilli were confirmed Mycobacterium avium-intracellulare (MAI) complex based on the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) using liver specimen.

Clinical relevance: The bird was definitively diagnosed as an avian mycobacteriosis complicated with intestinal ascariasis. Avian mycobacteriosis has zoonotic potential; therefore additional researches about origin and distribution of avian mycobacteriosis in Korea are necessary.

Key words: bird, intestinal ascariasis, mycobacteriosis

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