

HOMOEOPATHIC TREATMENT OF MULTIPLE CANINE ORAL PAPILOMA (WARTS) - A CASE REPORT

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Canine viral papillomatosis is commonly seen in dogs without any predilection to the specific breed or sex. Papillomatous lesions are always in multiple and affects the buccal mucosa, tongue, palate, pharynx, epiglottis, lips, eyelids and even on anus. The lesions begin as wide, flat, smooth, shiny papules of few millimeters in diameters and progress to whitish-gray, cauliflower-like hyperkeratotic masses up to 3 cm in diameter (Muller and Kirk, 1995). The present paper puts on record, a case of multiple oral papilloma (Warty excrescences) in a young dog and its successful treatment using homoeopathic remedies.

Case History ,observation and diagnosis :

A six months old, male Pomeranian dog was presented to the Teaching Veterinary Clinical Service Complex with a complaint of abnormal growth in and around both the oral commissures and tongue since last four weeks. Wart-like excrescences on buccal mucosa caused painful prehension and the dog was preferring only liquid diet. There was gradual reduction in condition, body weight and appetite. Clinical examination of oral cavity revealed multiple nodular grayish, pedunculated cauliflower-like growth in oral commissures involving lips, buccal mucosa and tongue interfering with the physiological process of prehension, mastication and swallowing (fig.1) The clinical parameters viz.; body temperature, heart rate and pulse rate were within the normal range. On the basis of history and clinical examination, the case was diagnosed as Canine Oral Papilloma (Warts).

Treatment:

The dog was treated with Homoeopathic remedy- "Thuja tablet" (Thuja Occidentalis tablet 30x, SBL PVT Limited, Jaipur) twice daily along with "Thuja ointment"(Thuja Occidentalis MT- 10% ointment) as an external local application for one month period. The supportive therapy comprised of liver tonic, multivitamins and immunomodulator (Levamisole hydrochloride) initially for 2-3 days. After one month wart-like excrescences on both the commissures almost regressed and there was disappearance of oral papillomatosis with marked improvement in feeding as well as body condition and health of the dog (Fig 2).

Discussion:

Canine Oral Papilloma Virus (COPV) is a non-enveloped double-stranded DNA virus belonging to the family papillomaviridae (Ettinger and Feldman , 2005). Similar to the present clinical case of papilloma, Vijayanand et al. (2008) also reported a case of oral papilloma in a dog showing multiple nodular growths on muzzle, lips, buccal mucosa and tongue. Removal of one-two warts by surgery can be recommended at a time, however surgical intervention may increase size of residual warts and may prolong the course of disease (Veena, 2001).

Madrewar (1996) discussed merits of homoeopathic therapy in the treatment of papillomatosis in cattle. MacLeod (1992) recommended oral and external application of Thuja Occidentalis against Papillomatous warts. Ajey Kumar, et al (1984) reported successful treatment of bovine papillomatosis within 6 weeks period with homoeopathic drug (Thuja 30x). Thuja occidentalis (Thuja occidentalis ointment, SBL PVT Limited, Jaipur) has a profound effect on pathological conditions, where chief manifestation is the formation of wart-like excrescences upon mucous membranes and cutaneous surfaces (Boericke, 1994). Therapeutic efficacy of Thuja occidentalis against pedunculated warty growths as well as tumours has also been documented by Christopher Day (1984) in small animals.

Homoeopathic therapy is less expensive, bears no side-effects or untoward reaction and do not require hospitalization. Hence, Veterinary homeopathy can be practiced successfully in pathological conditions like Oral Papillomatosis in canines.



Figure 1



Figure 2

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