



Feline Pygranulomatous Panophthalmitis with *Histoplasma capsulatum* infection

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Abstract

Mycotic Pygranulomatous Panophthalmitis and Uveitis is a moderately usual reason for infections blindness in feline and canine. The present study reports a case of 4 months, cachectic, female domestic shorthair cat (*Felis domesticus*) presented to the veterinary clinic with bilateral enlarged eyeballs

and pus oozy conjunctiva. The clinical examination showed severe endophthalmitis, blindness, and buphthalmia of both eyes. The eyes were treated topically with antimicrobial eye ointment and dexamethasone. Moreover, a systemic antibiotic was also injected for five days. Eyes lesions progressively worsened over the next few weeks and the cat euthanized and submitted for necropsy. Grossly, both eyes bulged forward with a cloudy cornea. The sclera of both eyes was composed of bulging proliferative white tissue. Cytology examination revealed a mixed inflammatory cell with a majority of neutrophils. Moreover, macrophages with yeast like organisms were also seen. The histopathological examination of the cross and sagittal sections of the eyes revealed that all layers of the globe comprising the iris, portions of the cornea and eyelids were effaced by sheets of macrophages distended with fungus and necrotic debris. Moreover, eye sections stained with Grocott's methenamine silver stain revealed positive rounded yeast like organs probably *Histoplasma capsulatum*. In conclusion, this case study is reported for the first time pygranulomatous panophthalmitis with *Histoplasma capsulatum* infection in cat in Iraq. It is important that awareness should be considered by the veterinarian during treatment these cases, in addition to aware the owners because Histoplasmosis is one of the important zoonotic diseases. The author recommends doing more epidemiological studies on dog and cat eye diseases in Iraq to investigate the more common causative agents.

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