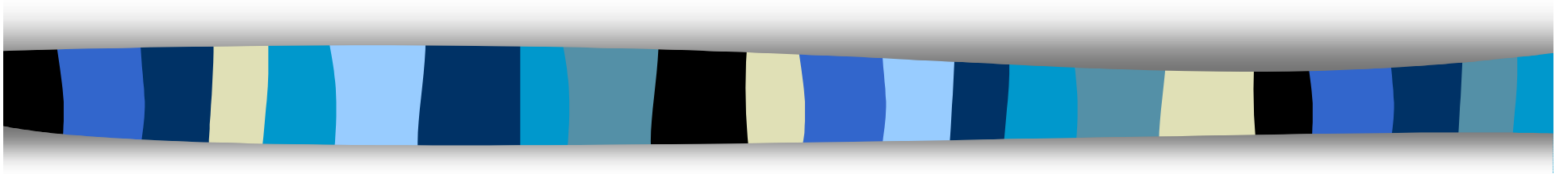


Colonic and Anorectal Diseases





Colonic and Anorectal Diseases

- Colitis
- Irritable bowel syndrome
- Constipation
 - Feline megacolon
- Fecal incontinence
- Anorectal disorders (surgical)

Causes of colitis in dogs and cats

(use the DAMN IT scheme)

- L/P colitis
- Histiocytic colitis
(Boxers)
- Bacterial
- Viral (cats)
- Protozoal
- Fungal
- Parasitic
- Miscellaneous





Treatment summary: IBD (Colitis)

- High fiber diet
- Tylosin
- Olsalazine
- Prednisolone
- Imuran

Try to make changes one at a time to
assess results of therapy.



Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS)

“Spastic colon”

- A poorly defined “functional” diarrhea
- Presumed to be psychomotor in nature
- Large breed (working dogs), excitable dogs
- Alternating mucoid diarrhea, constipation, abdominal cramping
- Diagnosis made by excluding any identifiable causes

IBS - Treatment

- Stress reduction, if possible
- Dietary modification
 - High fiber diet
- Motility modifiers
 - Opioid or anti-spasmodic (proprantheline)
- Anti-anxiety drug
 - clomipramine





Approach to anorectal diseases

■ Signs

- Dyschezia
- Constipation
- Anal irritation (licking and scooting)
- Ribbon-like feces
- Perianal dermatitis

■ Evaluation

- PE includes digital rectal exam
- Survey abdominal radiographs
- Proctoscopy
- +/- Barium enema



Constipation : Terminology

- Absent, infrequent or difficult defecation associated with retention of feces in the colon
- Obstipation - more severe form in which defecation cannot occur
- Megacolon – A disorder in which the colon becomes severely and irreversibly dilated and hypomotile



Constipation : History

- Failure to defecate for several days or longer
- Tenesmus
- Dyschezia
- Vomiting/anorexia/abdominal pain
- May paradoxically pass small amounts of liquid feces

Constipation: Clinical Findings

- Abdominal palpation of firm feces in colon
- Firm dry feces on rectal exam
- Large bowel dilated and filled with feces on radiographs





Causes of Constipation

- Ingestion of indigestible material
 - Bones, kitty litter, gravel, cloth, hair
- Lack of exercise
- Painful anorectal condition
- Mechanical obstruction
- Neurologic disease
 - Sacral deformity (Manx cats)
 - Feline idiopathic megacolon
- Miscellaneous
 - Dehydration
 - Drugs (opioids, sucralfate)
 - Hypothyroidism

Mechanical Obstructions as Causes of Constipation

- Colono-rectal mass
- Congenital lesions
 - Imperforate anus
- Healed pelvic fracture
- Intrapelvic mass
- Perineal hernia
- Prostatomegaly
- Rectal diverticulum





Constipation : Treatment

- Correct predisposing cause
- Correct fluids and electrolytes
- Oral laxatives
 - Increased dietary fiber
 - DSS (docusate) or petrolatum (Laxatone)
- Initial cleansing enema may be needed
- Lactulose as laxative in refractory cases
- Prokinetic
 - Cisapride
 - Ranitidine

Subtotal colectomy may become necessary in cats with idiopathic megacolon



