

Hepatic mass in a Labrador Retriever

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Case presentation:

A 2 year-old, female spayed Labrador Retriever was presented for the investigation of progressive abdominal distension associated with moderate lethargy but no other specific clinical signs. The dog was living in the French Alps but regularly travelled to the United Kingdom. It was up to date with the usual vaccinations used in France and Great Britain, and was regularly given milbemycin oxime and praziquantel tablets (MILBEMAX®, Novartis) as prophylactic treatment against endoparasites.

Computed tomography was performed and revealed the presence of a voluminous (approximately 15 × 20 cm) and cavitory mass appearing very mildly and diffusely mineralized in the right cranial abdominal quadrant. The mass was continuous with the parenchyma of the right liver lobes and the intrahepatic portal vasculature and displaced both kidneys, the stomach, the duodenum, and the portal vein. The caudal vena cava was displaced dorsally and to the left. It was severely compressed and partially surrounded by the lesion; invasion of the venous wall was suspected. Two smaller cavitory nodules (measuring 3 mm and 7 mm respectively), bearing the same appearance, were noted in the otherwise normal liver parenchyma.

Hepatic, gastric and pancreaticoduodenal lymph nodes were moderately enlarged (8–10 mm). No peritoneal effusion was detected. The other abdominal structures were within normal limits.

CT examination of the thorax revealed multiple, 3 to 7 mm diameter nodules, distributed throughout the lung field, mostly in the periphery of the lobes.

Fine needle aspirates and needle-biopsies were obtained under ultrasound guidance and submitted for cytologic evaluation (figures 1 to 5)

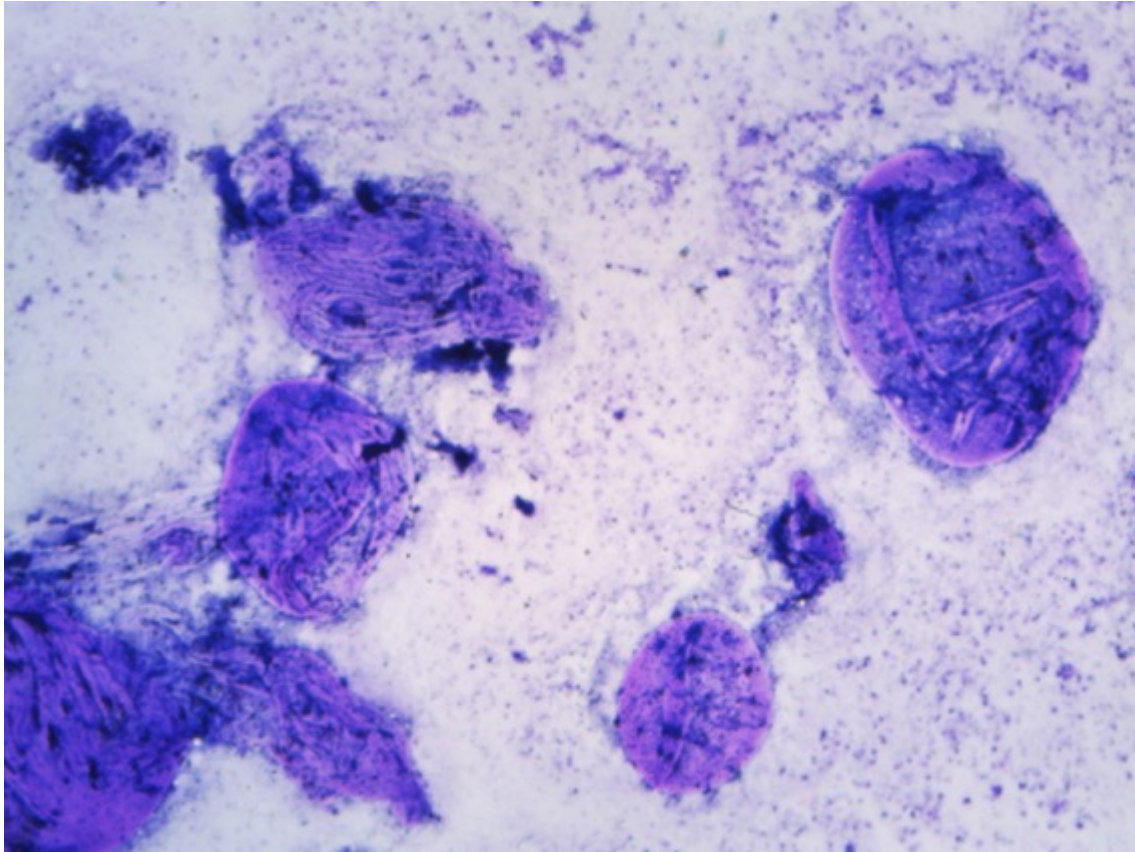


Figure 1: FNA from hepatic mass (x40 magnification, MGG)

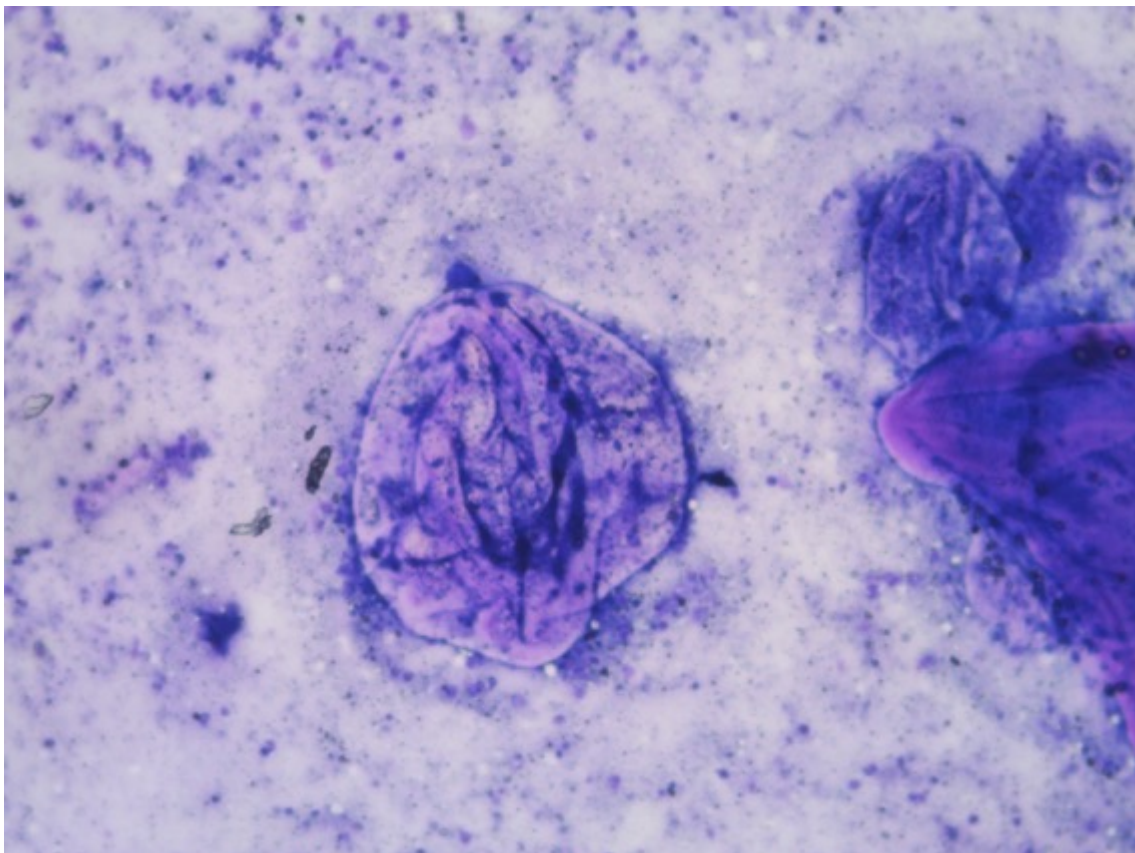


Figure 2: FNA form hepatic mass (x100 Magnification, MGG)

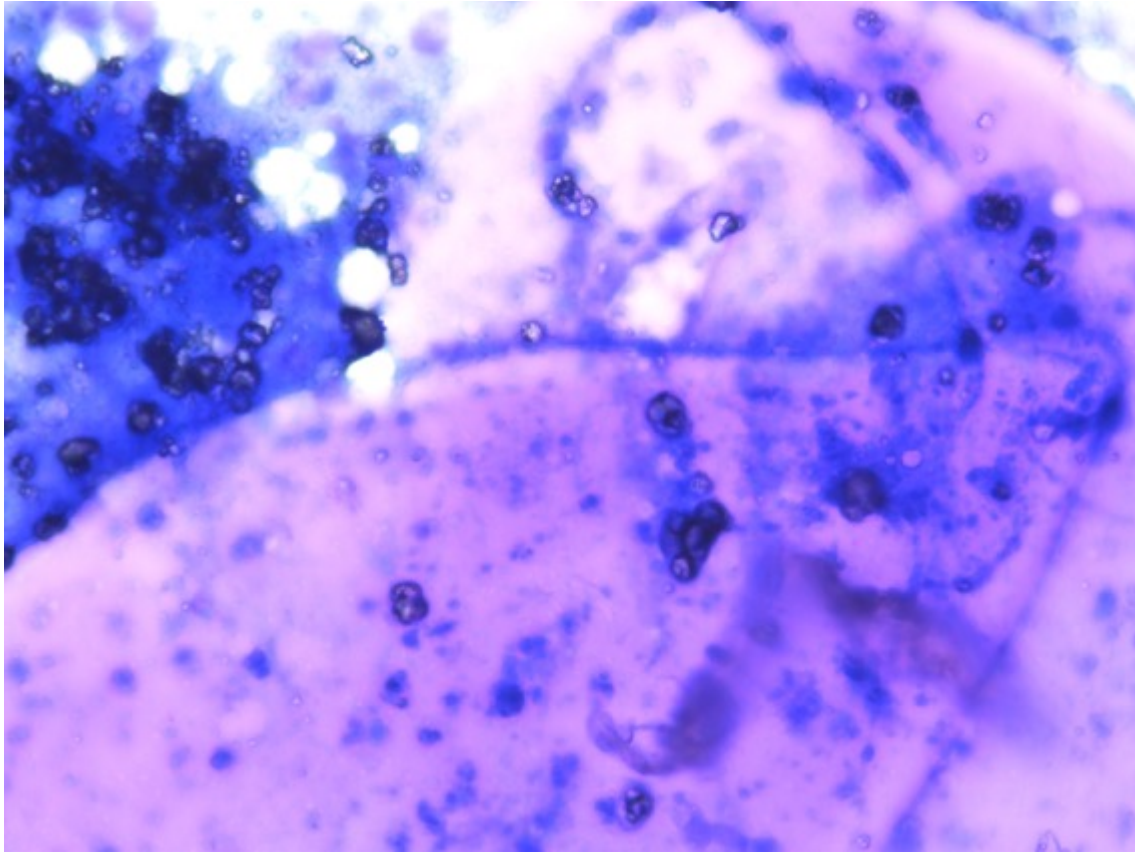


Figure 3: FNA from hepatic mass (x1000 Magnification, MGG)

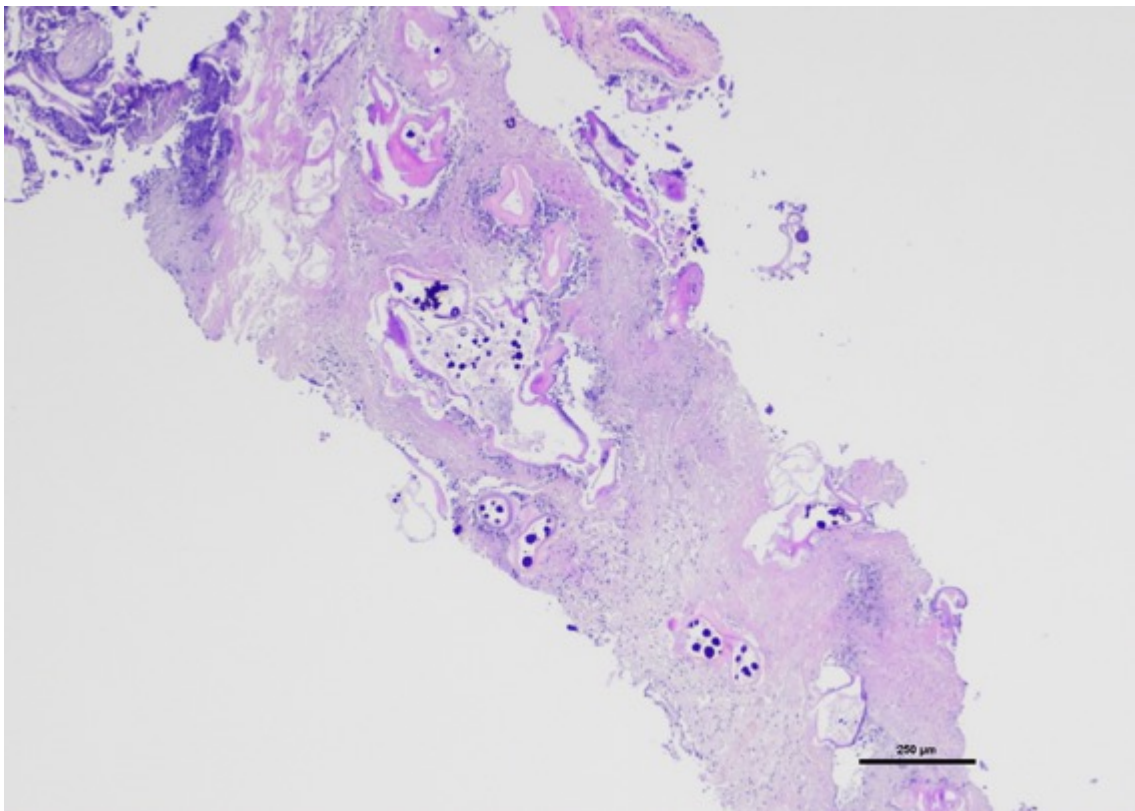


Figure 4: Biopsy from hepatic Mass (x20 Magnification, H&E)

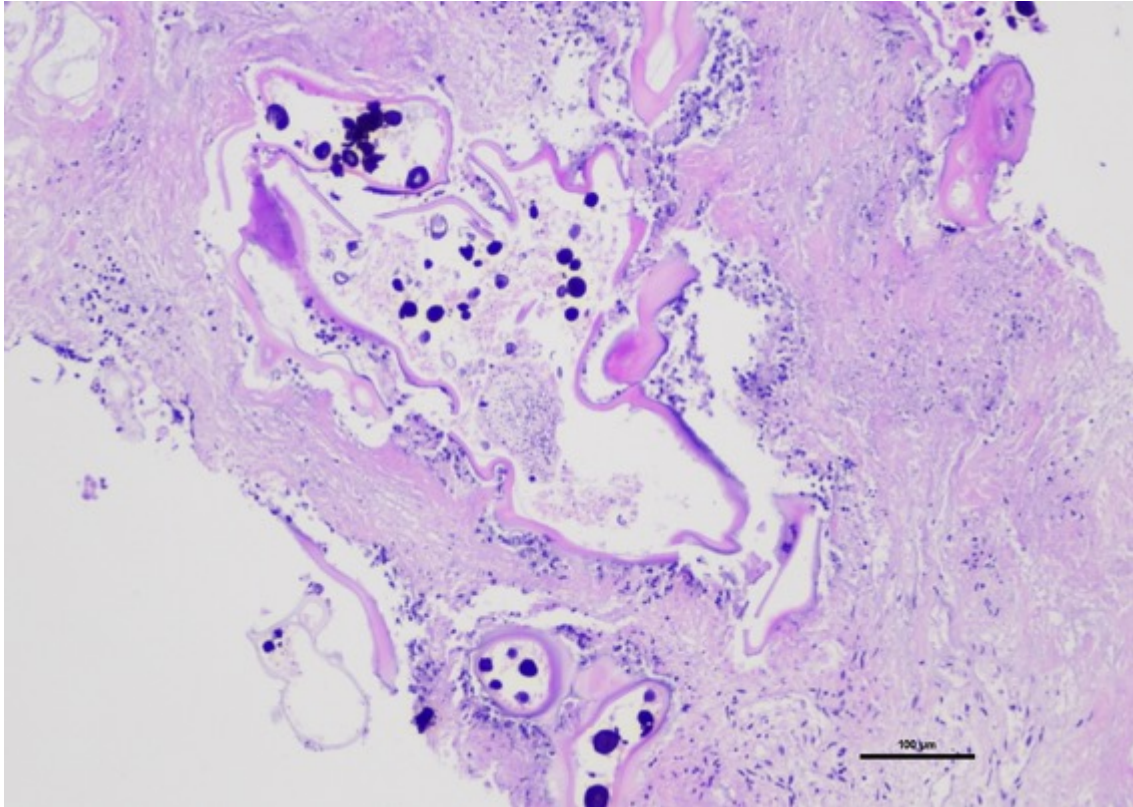


Figure 5: Biopsy from hepatic Mass (x100 Magnification, H&E)

Describe and interpret the cytologic and histologic findings.