

**ZOOLOGICAL PATHOLOGY PROGRAM
STRANDED CETACEAN NECROPSY REPORT**

Field ID: 65IMMS062510
Additional Identifier: D-0017; 10-260C histo accession number
ZPP Accession Number: 11-60Tt
Species: *Tursiops truncatus*
Strand Date: 06-25-10
Strand Location: Mobile, AL
Sex: female
Age Class: Adult
Necropsy Date: 06-25-10
Condition code: 3
Total Length: 228 cm
Weight:
Blubber Depth:
Body Condition:

Gross Necropsy: Gross report and oiled marine mammal report available.

Slides/Tissues Received: 15 regular slides.

Microscopic Findings: Autolysis is severe, impeding interpretation; also widespread colonization by large numbers of postmortem bacteria.

Slide 1:

Lymph node: There are increased numbers of large cortical follicles. Sinuses contain moderate to large numbers of neutrophils and abundant karyorrhectic debris.

Lymph node: There are similar sinus changes but lesser cortical follicles.

Lymph node: There are numerous large cortical follicles. Subcapsular sinuses contain few neutrophils.

Slide 2:

Lymph node: Sinuses contain large numbers of neutrophils.

Lung: Regionally one section has small conducting airways and alveoli which are partially to completely filled with blood (hemorrhage). The pleura is uniformly moderately thickened, composed of dense collagenous fibrous tissue containing moderate numbers of small thick-walled vessels and few medium caliber vessels with surrounding, distinct nodular aggregates of smooth muscle. A medium caliber pulmonary artery is surrounded by small quantities of similar fibrous tissue with vessels. The alveolar interstitium contains occasional small foci of fibrous tissue with few thick walled vessels. In a second section of lung there are similar perivascular and interstitial accumulations of well vascularized fibrous tissue. Many alveoli contain fibrillar

to granular pale eosinophilic material, low numbers of neutrophils, few macrophages, some with a distinct, slightly glassy colorless vacuole, and or few erythrocytes. A rare alveolus also contains few squames. One small caliber bronchiole has a large submucosal lymphofollicular aggregate. Few other bronchioles have small submucosal or adjacent interstitial aggregates of lymphocytes and fewer plasma cells.

Uterus: No Significant Findings (NSF)

Slide 3:

Heart: NSF

Lymph node (2): NSF

Blubber: NSF

Slide 4:

Tonsil: NSF

Thymus: NSF

Slide 5:

Skeletal muscle: NSF

Heart: NSF

Lymph node: NSF

Slide 6:

Heart (atrium) : NSF

Colon: NSF

Adrenal: NSF

Fundic stomach: NSF

Slide 7:

Urinary bladder: NSF

Pancreas: NSF

Intestine (ampulla, presumptive): NSF

Lymph node: NSF

Skeletal muscle: NSF

Slide 8:

Vagina with (presumptive) urethra: NSF

Intestine (2): NSF

Luminal organ: There are scattered extravasated erythrocytes.

Slide 9:

Ovary: NSF

Unidentified tissue: NSF

Slide 10:

Vagina: NSF

Heart (atrium) : NSF

Kidney: NSF

Slide 11:

Spinal cord (2) : NSF

Brain: NSF

Slide 12:

Brain: NSF

Slide 13:

Esophagus: The mucosa has moderately increased (retained) superficial layers.

Slide 14:

Eye: NSF

Slide 15:

Eye: NSF

Final Diagnoses:

1. Victim of trauma (see gross necropsy report)
2. Moderate, focal, pulmonary hemorrhage
3. Moderate to moderately severe drainage reaction, multiple lymph nodes
4. Mild, regional, suppurative bronchopneumonia with intralesional squames and with mild edema and histiocytosis
5. Moderate, multifocal pulmonary angiomatosis

Comments:

Given gross findings, death was due to blunt trauma. A consistent histologic finding was pulmonary hemorrhage.

Multiple lymph nodes had a moderate to severe drainage reaction implying an inflammatory focus existed somewhere, though none of severity to have such a drainage reaction was noted in the reviewed tissues. If this animal lived for a short time post-trauma, drainage reaction could be related to traumatic wounds.

Mild pneumonia was suspected to be secondary to low grade aspiration, given few squames consistent with upper airway or esophageal/gastric origin. Aspiration may have occurred as a post-traumatic event.

Retained esophageal mucosal layers was consistent with recent hyporexia/anorexia.

Pulmonary angiomatosis is a common, generally incidental finding in free-ranging bottlenose dolphins from the Gulf of Mexico.

Reported By:

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