

Clinical pathology diagnostic challenge: case #5

Signalment: Giant poodle, male, 3 years old.

History: complete anorexia for the last 3 days, antibiotic-responsive hyperthermia a few weeks ago.

Physical exam observations: generalized weakness, pale mucous membranes.

| CBC results | | Clinical chemistry results | |
|--|--------|--------------------------------------|------|
| Hematocrit (0.37-0.55 L/L) | 0.08* | Glucose (3.38-6.88 mmol/L) | 4.6 |
| Hemoglobin (120-180 g/L) | 53 | BUN (2.09-7.91 mmol/L) | 7.7 |
| Erythrocytes (5.5-8.5 x 10 ¹² /L) | 0.99 | Creatinine (58-127 µmol/L) | 68 |
| MCV (60-77 fL) | 202 | ALT (4-62 U/L) | 33 |
| MCHC (320-360 g/L) | 663 | Alkaline phosphatase (6-80 U/L) | 421 |
| Reticulocytes (<1 %) | 8.2 | Total protein (56.6-74.8 g/L) | 58.6 |
| Reticulocytes (<60 000 x 10 ⁶ /L) | 81 334 | Albumin (29.1-39.7 g/L) | 29.7 |
| Platelets (200-900 x 10 ⁹ /L) | 11 | Globulins (23.5-39.1 g/L) | 28.9 |
| Plasma protein (60-80 g/L) | 72 | Calcium (2.38-3.00 mmol/L) | 2.38 |
| Leukocytes (6.0-17.0 x 10 ⁹ /L) | 33.5 | Phosphorus (0.75-1.70 mmol/L) | 1.37 |
| Neutrophils (mature) (3.0-11.5 x 10 ⁹ /L) | 27.1 | Potassium (3.82-5.34 mmol/L) | 4.38 |
| Neutrophils (band) (0-0.3 x 10 ⁹ /L) | 1.0 | Sodium (143-154 mmol/L) | 146 |
| Lymphocytes (1.0-4.8 x 10 ⁹ /L) | 1.3 | Chloride (108-117 mmol/L) | 112 |
| Monocytes (<1.4 x 10 ⁹ /L) | 4.0 | Total CO ₂ (17-25 mmol/L) | 21 |
| Eosinophils (0.1-1.3 x 10 ⁹ /L) | 0.1 | Anion Gap (12-24 mmol/L) | 17 |
| Basophils (0 - rare x 10 ⁹ /L) | 0 | | |

*Sample observations: hemolysis 2+ and mildly icteric. The hematocrit showed in the list was calculated by an automated hematology analyzer. Using the same sample, a microhematocrit was done and 0.20 L/L was the obtained packed cell volume.

Using the laboratory changes, submit a differential diagnosis and justify it (pathophysiology). If needed list other possible tests to confirm your diagnosis.