

Salivary Cyst in a Cat: A Case Report

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A salivary cyst is an accumulation of saliva in the duct or in the tissue around the duct or gland. While any of the salivary gland may be affected, the condition most commonly involves the sublingual gland. A sublingual cyst is designated as a Ranula. (The Merck Veterinary Manual, 1986). The frequency of occurrence in dogs is common, but occasionally it may be encountered in the feline (cat) species as well. These ranula or honey cysts are caused by trauma or inflammatory occlusion or the rupture of the duct of the salivary gland.

The cat aged 7 years with a history of anorexia for approximately for 10 days. When the owner tried to find out the reason for the cat's inappetance, she found a swollen area below the cat's tongue. When the cat was presented at the O.P.D., Bombay Veterinary College, the swollen area was diagnosed to be a ranula. Surgical removal was necessary so, the owner was advised to keep the cat fasting for 12 hrs, and to withhold water for 24 hrs.

On the day of surgery the cat was anaesthetised with Triflupromizine hydrochloride @ 3.5 mg/kg intramuscularly. Ketamine hydrochloride @ 35mg/kg intramuscularly. After 10 minutes the cat was taken for

surgery. The cat's mouth was held wide open while the tongue was pulled out on the opposite side of the ranula. A nick incision was taken on the cyst with scalpel blade no.10 (Fig.2). The transparent mucinous fluid was allowed to drain out by tilting the cat's head on one side (Fig.3). After complete drainage, tincture iodine was flushed in the empty cyst. No sutures were taken. The cat was treated postoperatively with Cefotaxime (Taxim) @ 150 mg b.i.d. for 5 days & B-Complex o.i.d. for 10 days. The owner was instructed to dress the operative site with Rexitidine-M ointment. The cat was kept on a semi-solid diet for the next 3 days. The cat recovered uneventfully.

References

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Fig.1. Ranula in cat



Fig.2. Nick incision with Scalpel blade no.10



Fig.3. Drainage of mucinous fluid

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