

Companion or pet animals
Dogs



Cranial abdominal mass due to *Echinococcus multilocularis* in a two-year-old wirehaired dachshund in Wallonia (Belgium)

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Abstract

A cranial abdominal mass on the left side was detected upon palpation in a two-and-a-half-year-old male wirehaired dachshund. No other clinical signs were recorded except exhaustion following exertion, and soft faeces. Abdominal echography showed hepatomegaly with extensive histological alterations; microscopical examination of smears from hepatic mass and fluid puncture revealed a low cellularity and protoscolex-like structures. Following those findings, euthanasia was requested by the owner. Necropsy revealed a severe multifocal chronic active hepatitis with some degree of right ventricular dilatation. Based on histopathology and PCR, a diagnosis of alveolar echinococcosis due to *Echinococcus multilocularis* was established. The dog was living in the Ardennes region in Belgium known as being endemic for *E. multilocularis*. The present observation is in agreement with a similar canine case previously published and the high prevalence of *E. multilocularis* in the local fox population.

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Footnotes

Contributors: YC writes the manuscript and followed the whole case.

BJL contributes to paper reviewing. CB

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AL contributes to paper reviewing.

FB makes molecular analysis and contributes to paper reviewing and supervises all the work.

