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 protoscolices 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.
BLL contributes to paper reviewing. CB makes histopathology and contributes to paper reviewing.
AL contributes to paper reviewing.
FB makes molecular analysis and contributes to paper reviewing and supervises all the work.