RESUMO SIMPLES - OUTRAS ÁREAS TEMÁTICAS

APPENDICULAR OSTEOSARCOMA WITH PULMONARY AND SUBCUTANEOUS METASTASIS IN A FELINE: CASE REPORT

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Osteosarcoma is the most common bone neoplasm in small animals. In felines, primary bone tumors account for 1.8% of cases diagnosed in the species. The most commonly affected animals are males nearing ten years of age. The clinical course of osteosarcoma in felines is less aggressive compared to dogs, as they exhibit slower tumor growth and a lower metastatic rate. The present study aims to report a case of osteosarcoma in a feline with metastatic foci in the lung and subcutis. A nine-year-old, spayed female cat was brought to a private veterinary service for a consultation due to swelling in the left thoracic limb. Radiography of the limb was performed, which revealed the presence of bone lysis in the distal radial region. Following a screening cytopathological examination, osteosarcoma was suggested as the diagnosis. Patient staging was performed with a thoracic radiograph, where the only alteration found was a 0.36 cm nodule in the lung, suggestive of metastasis. The abdominal

ultrasound and blood work, however, presented no abnormalities. As the first approach to treating the disease, limb amputation was performed. Following histopathological analysis confirming osteosarcoma, a chemotherapy protocol was initiated with carboplatin (250mg/m2) every 21 days, totaling 6 sessions. After the chemotherapy treatment, a follow-up radiograph of the animal was performed, which showed two nodules, each measuring approximately 0.65 cm. Given the disease progression, the chemotherapy drug was switched to doxorubicin hydrochloride (1mg/m2) every 28 days for 4 sessions. A subsequent radiograph showed the previously found lung nodules were the same size. However, the animal developed a subcutaneous nodulation over the right femur region, although radiography of the limb did not reveal bone lysis. Consequently, a cytopathological analysis of the lesion was performed, which was suggestive of sarcoma. The animal continued treatment but presented a new nodule on the back and radiography evidenced growth of the lung formations. Furthermore, the cat displayed signs of debility and cachexia, factors that led to its death 20 months after the neoplasm diagnosis. Despite the lower aggressiveness of feline osteosarcoma compared to the occurrence of this disease in dogs, the prognosis for this neoplasm remains reserved, and it can lead to the animal's death depending on the clinical course. Furthermore, even with the low incidence of distant metastasis reported in 5% to 10% of cases, patient staging with imaging exams, particularly thoracic radiography, is essential to understand the complete extent of the disease and identify potential metastases, as these are determining factors for case management. The more aggressive and possibly more undifferentiated presentation may have been a factor in the cytological analysis of the cutaneous nodule being insufficient to define the formation as osteosarcoma, and histopathological and immunohistochemical examinations could more accurately indicate the type of sarcoma. Limb amputation is the primary method of local disease control. However, no established adjuvant chemotherapy protocol exists for treating the neoplasm after surgery in felines. Nevertheless, the recommendation of adjuvant systemic therapy may increase the animal's survival time. Therefore, despite the low incidence of bone neoplasms and their reduced aggressiveness in felines, this report highlights the importance of complete patient staging for the visualization and monitoring of possible metastases. Moreover, it corroborates with other studies showing that adjuvant chemotherapy with doxorubicin hydrochloride may increase the survival time of animals with osteosarcoma.

Palavras-chave: oncology; cancer; small animals; chimotherapy.