



# Latin Comparative Pathology Group

## The Latin Subdivision of the CL Davis Foundation

### Diagnostic Exercise

Case #: 21 Month: May Year: 2012

**Contributor:** Rafael Figuera, DVM, Doctor in Veterinary Pathology, Member of the Brazilian College of Animal Pathology (CBPA), Laboratory of Veterinary Pathology, Universidade Federal de Santa Maria, Santa Maria, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil.

**Clinical History:** A chronic neurologic disease was observed in several cats in the rural areas of Alegrete, southeastern Rio Grande do Sul, state near the border of Brazil, Argentina, and Uruguay, South Brazil. Affected cats initially developed tail paralysis and paresis that progressed to bunny-hopping gait and ataxia. After a long period (up to 8 months) cats became paralytic, developed urinary vesicular atony, and were euthanized. According to locals, this condition has been affecting cats in this geographic location for at least 20 years and it is referred to as “bambeira”. Three farms were visited and seven cats were evaluated. Four of them had some of the aforementioned clinical signs and were necropsied. Clinicopathological findings described in this report refer to the most severely affected cat (young adult, male intact, mixed breed).

**Laboratory Findings:** Complete blood count (CBC) and blood smears were unremarkable. Biochemical tests did not reveal any abnormalities. Evaluated parameters included alanine aminotransferase (ALT), aspartate aminotransferase (AST), blood urea nitrogen (BUN), creatinine, alkaline phosphatase (ALP), gamma-glutamyltransferase (GGT), lactate dehydrogenase (LDH), amylase, lipase, and bilirubin levels. Creatinine kinase levels were mildly elevated (689 U/L). The remaining parameters were within normal limits.

**Necropsy & Microscopic Findings:** Please see the following images.



Figure 1. Tissue from a male, mixed breed, young adult cat. Gross photograph.

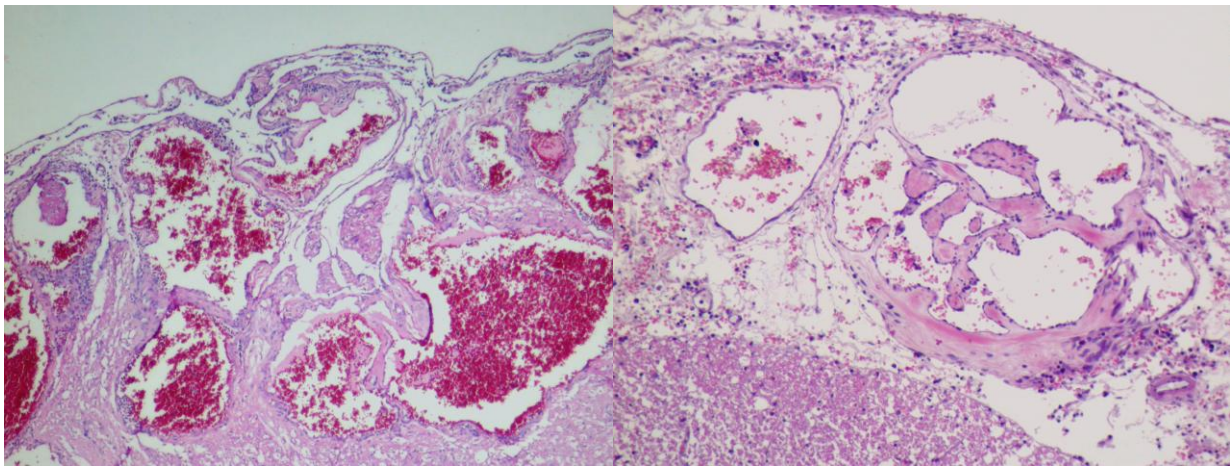


Figure 2. Tissue from a male, mixed breed, young adult cat. HE, obj.10x.

Figure 3. Tissue from a male, mixed breed, young adult cat. HE, obj.10x.

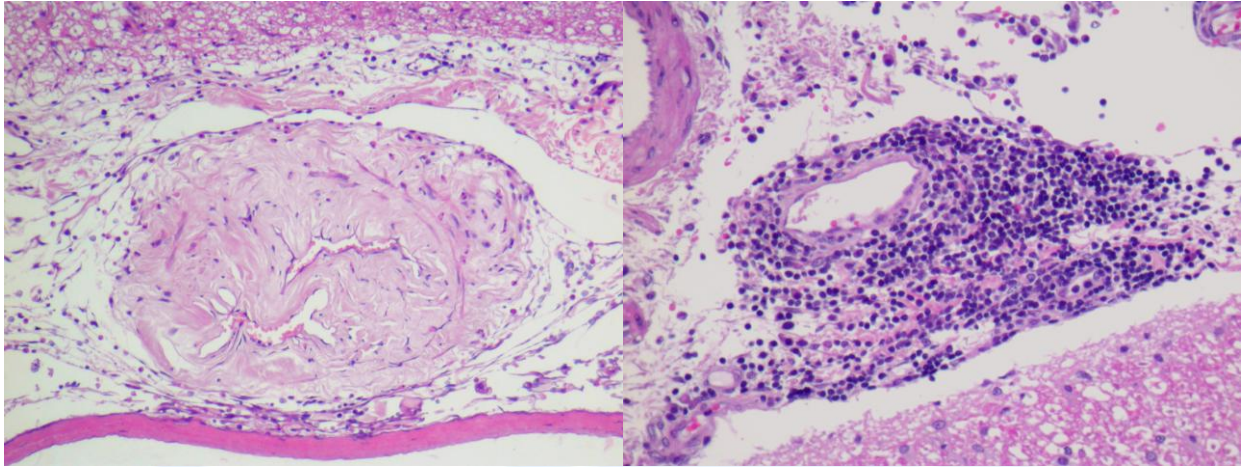


Figure 4. Tissue from a male, mixed breed, young adult cat. HE, obj.20x.

Figure 5. Tissue from a male, mixed breed, young adult cat. HE, obj.20x.

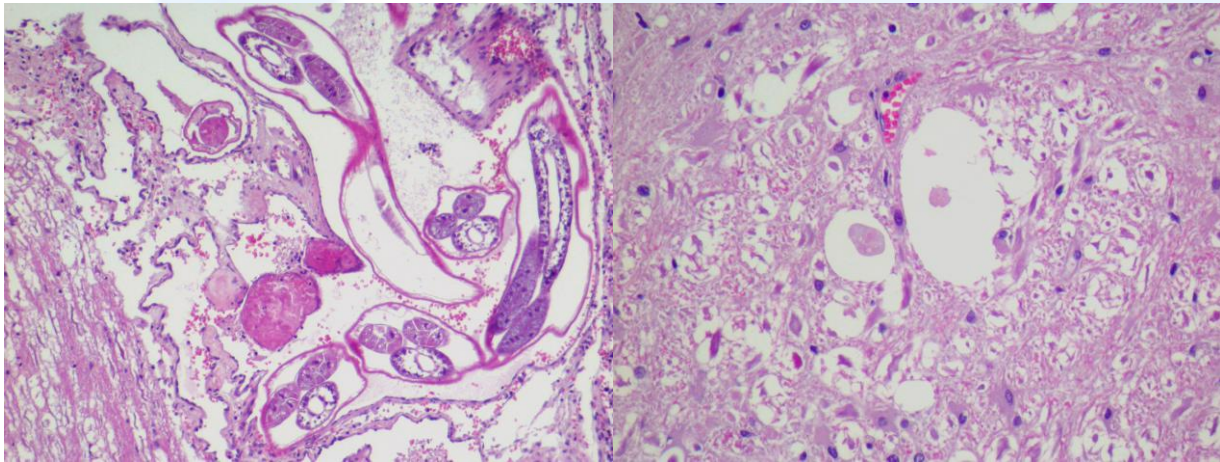


Figure 6. Tissue from a male, mixed breed, young adult cat. HE, obj.10x.

Figure 7. Tissue from a male, mixed breed, young adult cat. HE, obj.20x.

**Questions:**

1. *Morphologic diagnosis*
2. *Etiologic diagnosis*
3. *Etiology*
4. *Condition*

Please send your comments/questions to the whole LCPG list by hitting "reply to all".

A final document containing this material with answers and a brief discussion will be posted on the C. L.

Davis website by the end of the current month ([http://www.cldavis.org/lcpg\\_english.html](http://www.cldavis.org/lcpg_english.html)).