Letters

Lung lobe torsion in a Yorkshire terrier

MADAM

We have recently experienced lung lobe torsion (LLT) in a nine-year-old, spayed female, Yorkshire terrier with acute dyspnoea, weakness and vomiting. Abnormally orientated, consolidated left cranial lung lobe apex and pleural effusion were seen ultrasonographically, and obstructed left mainstem bronchus was visualised with bronchoscopy. At thoracotomy the caudal portion of the left cranial lung lobe was found to be twisted. After occlusion of the affected bronchus near the hilus (without detorsing), the left cranial lung lobe was surgically removed. Unfortunately, 48 hours after presentation, the dog had a cardiac arrest and resuscitation was unsuccessful.

LLT has been already described in some small breeds as well as in various large breed dogs. However, there have been no previous reports in the Yorkshire terrier. We report this case to encourage clinicians to suspect LLT in small breed dogs including the Yorkshire terrier.

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Reference