



VETERINARY REPORT

To whom it may concern

On Friday 6 January 2023 at approximately 1pm, Inspector Taljaard presented me with a surrendered animal for assessment. The animal was surrendered to the SPCA by J.C. Hendricks, of 188 6th Ave, Grassy Park. Admin no. 89909. Below the clinical findings.

ANIMAL DETAILS

Species: Canine
Breed: Husky cross
Sex: Female
Age: Approx. 12 years by owner's account
Name: None provided, Admin no. 89909
Description: Brown, cream and white

EXAMINATION FINDINGS

On presentation the dog appeared to have an overall dull, but still responsive habitus. Body condition score was good (5/9 on the Nestle Purina Body Condition System). Muscle condition score was adequate.

No obvious external parasites were noted.

There was obvious fly strike on the right ear upper margin of the pinna. The left ear was notably misshapen and irregular on palpation and I suspect that there had been a previous healed othaematoma.

Dentition was in very poor condition, with most of the teeth being highly worn down.

There was a large (approx. 8cm in diameter), irregular, multilobulated and ovoid mass on the right upper eyelid, completely obstructing the eye. A notable purulent discharge was noted coming from under the mass, as well as some blood from the mass itself from individual ulcerated areas. The discharge appeared to be coming predominantly from the eye, where a marked mucopurulent discharge was present and congested conjunctivae.

A fine needle aspirate was taken from the mass, and examined in-house. The mass was diagnosed as a cutaneous melanoma, and the sample displayed multiple signs of malignancy. The mass was deemed non-resectable, as this would have required complete removal of the upper eyelid, enucleation, and no guarantee of success. One major concern was that it may have begun to penetrate the underlying bone, which would notably affect the prognosis.

Based on findings on the sample taken, the macroscopic appearance of the growth and numerous ulcerations, it was determined that this was a malignant melanoma. This significantly increased the risk that the cancer had started to spread already, including to the underlying bone and surrounding tissues, and other areas in the body, which would have severely negatively affected the prognosis. Taking into consideration the condition of the patient, the malignant nature of the growth, and the poor prognosis, it was determined that

the best course of action would be to humanely euthanase the animal to prevent any further suffering.

COMMENTS

Based on the condition of the dog, and the size of the mass by the time of surrender, I believe the animal to have been neglected by the owner. At the very least, the macroscopic appearance would have indicated veterinary intervention long before the time of surrender and the owner failed in their duty to provide the animal with proper and timeous veterinary care.

Yours sincerely

Dr Stephan Spamer

BVSc (Pret)

Veterinarian

Date compiled: 09 January 2023