



VETERINARY REPORT

On the 6th of February 2025,

I, Dr Anja Coulthard, was requested to perform a veterinary report on a dog picked up as a stray by the SPCA inspector Jeffrey Mfini in front of 20 Matterhorn Crescent, Tafelsig, Cape Town on the 6th of February 2025.

ANIMAL DETAILS

Name:

Species: Canine

Breed: Cross breed

Sex: Female intact

Age: Adult

Description: Black and tan

Case number: A55584

EXAMINATION FINDINGS

- **Description** of the condition

The dog presented collapsed with a dull mentation. Rectal temperature of 37.6 degrees Celsius. She was severely emaciated with a body condition score of 1 out of 9 on the Nestle Purina Body Condition System scale. There was a foul odour coming from the dog's mouth with visible swelling of both sides of the face from the corner of the mouth to the cheeks. On further examination there were large areas of necrotic tissue on the inside surface of the lips and mouth. There areas were more severe on the lower lips. There were also two areas of necrosis on the underside of the tongue. An impression smear of this lesion indicated a pyogranulomatous inflammatory response with a mixed bacterial population. The wounds may have been infected, however the bacteria could also originate from the mouth's normal flora. Blood smear examination indicated a severe inflammatory response the body was struggling to cope with.

- **Duration** of the condition

Chronic. The severity, extent and depth of the necrotic lesions, the severe mixed bacterial infection, pronounced emaciation and the disorderly inflammatory response indicate chronicity in this case.

- **Cause** of the condition

Cause of the initial insult is unclear due to the extent of the tissue damage and necrosis. Given the location of the lesions an electrical cord burn left untreated is considered likely.

- **Prognosis** – Very poor.

- **Recommendation**

In my opinion this animal suffered unnecessarily as he did not receive veterinary care timeously. If presented when the inciting incident occurred, the wounds may have been treatable. In her current condition the dog would have struggled to eat due to the pain and discomfort which would have contributed to her severe emaciation and state of collapse. On presentation the extent of the dog's suffering meant that treatment was no longer considered a humane option and the she was humanely euthanised.

Yours sincerely

Dr A Coulthard (BVSc)

Veterinarian

Date compiled: 6 February 2025