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Postmortem report for

INTERPRETATION:

1. Protein-Energy malnutrition

MACROSCOPIC PATHOLOGY

1. The carcass was labelled with admission number A70036 and the postmortem was done at the wildlife unit of the SPCA Cape of Good Hope on the 22nd of July 2025.
2. The carcass is that of a partially frozen female Jack Russel in very poor body condition (1/5). There is a lot of dirt around the oral cavity. Moderate autolytic change is evident.
3. The oral cavity shows no sign of sand in the pharynx or trachea.
4. The spinous processes and hip bones are prominent and exposed.
5. Moderate mammary development
6. In the oral cavity, the mandibular canines are worn significantly.
7. The oral mucous membranes are pale pink. There is loss of maxillary incisors and premolars.
8. The abdominal cavity shows marked autolytic change. The uterus is present and there is moderate mammary development.
9. The brain shows marked red discolouration of the meninges (likely freeze artifact).
10. The small intestine shows mild dark red discolouration.
11. No other abnormalities were noted in the remaining organs.

COMMENT

The freeze artifact makes interpretation difficult but objectively, this animal was in very poor body condition. I could not establish a medical cause on postmortem; however, organs samples have been placed in formalin and can be analysed at extra cost. However, please correlate these findings with history in this case, especially if she was given adequate quantity and quality of food. Progressive starvation can result in hypoglycaemia and weakness which can manifest and stumbling. Please contact me if wish to proceed with further histological examination.

Your sincerely

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