Tumors of the urogenital system in dogs and cats. Retrospective review of 138 cases

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Abstract

The aim of the study was to estimate the prevalence and localization of different tumors in the urogenital system in dogs and cats in relation to sex, age and breed of animals. The study was performed on tumors or tissue specimens from tumors of the urinary and genital system obtained during surgery from dogs and cats submitted to the Division of Pathological Anatomy, Department of Clinical Sciences Agricultural University of Warsaw from 1998 to 2005. Most tumors of the urogenital system recognized in the present study derived from dogs (94.20%, 130 cases), and only a few cases were obtained from cats (5.79%). Occurrence and localization of urogenital system tumors in present review is similar to findings reported by other authors. Testicular tumors in males, ovarian lesions in females and urinary bladder tumors in both sexes were most commonly recognized. Older dogs were most often affected, animals with nonmalignant tumors were a bit younger than those with malignant lesions. Any obvious breed predilections were found, but terriers were at increased risk for development of transitional cell carcinoma of the urinary bladder and mixed breed and German shepherd for development of testicular neoplasms.

Key words: urogenital tumors, dog, histopathology, testicular tumors.

Introduction

Neoplasms of the urinary and genital system are rare in dogs and cats. Among them, tumors of the testis in males, vagina in females, and urinary bladder in both sexes are most common. Early surgical castration means that some tumors are extremely rare, for example testicular tumors in male cats. The true prevalence of these neoplasms is unknown, because reports in the literature are based largely on necropsy surveys and biopsy submissions. Various diagnostic methods of visualization, especially radiography and ultrasonography are more popular and thus some types of neoplasms, including urogenital ones, are more commonly recognized (Johnston et al. 1991, Norris et al. 1992). Generally, surgical castration of the companion animals causes, in some cases decreased prevalence of many neoplastic lesions (early castration). On the other hand, late castration makes possible incidental detection of early lesions during surgical intervention, which do not have any clinical manifestations and cannot be found during basic clinical evaluations.

There are not too many detailed data on occurrence of tumors of the urogenital system in dogs and cats in Polish literature, but some papers do mention