Lymphopenia

Julie Allen, BVMS, MS, MRCVS, DACVIM (SAIM), DACVP

FOR MORE

Find more Differential Diagnosis lists in upcoming issues of Clinician's Brief and on cliniciansbrief.com

Following are differential diagnoses for patients presented with lymphopenia.

- ► Acute infection, particularly viral
- Cytotoxic or immunosuppressive drug (eg, chlorambucil, cyclophosphamide)
- Destruction/disruption of lymphoid tissue (eg, multicentric lymphoma)
- Immunodeficiency (rare; eg, severe combined immunodeficiency syndrome in basset hounds, Cardigan Welsh corgis, Jack Russell terriers, Frisian water dogs)
- Increased exposure to endogenous corticosteroids
 - Acute illness
 - Hyperadrenocorticism
 - · Stress (eg, surgery)
- Increased exposure to exogenous corticosteroids
 - · Steroid therapy
 - · Contact with steroid creams in household
- Loss of lymphocytes (eg, into intestinal tract with lymphangiectasia, into pleural cavity with chylothorax)
- Whole body irradiation

References

Mutz M, Boudreaux B, Kearney M, Stroda K, Gaunt S, Shiomitsu K. Prognostic value of baseline absolute lymphocyte concentration and neutrophil/lymphocyte ratio in dogs with newly diagnosed multi-centric lymphoma. Vet Comp Oncol. 2015:13(4);337-347.

Stockham SL, Scott MA. Leukocytes. In: Stockham SL, Scott MA. Fundamentals of Veterinary Clinical Pathology. 2nd ed. Ames, IA: Blackwell Publishing; 2008:83-85.