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Signalment and History

• 1.5 year old, 564kg Black Angus steer
• History of neurologic signs and blindness
Gross Necropsy Findings

- Autolysis (histo on brain and eyes only)
- Excellent body condition
- Blue, bilaterally opaque corneas
- No brain fluorescence under UV light
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Morphologic diagnosis: Eye: Marked, subacute-chronic lymphoplasmacytic uveitis (iridocyclitis), conjunctivitis and keratitis with multifocal corneal ulceration, neovascularization and edema; Marked, multifocal subacute lymphoplasmacytic vasculitis (arteritis and periarteritis)
Morphologic diagnosis: Eye: Marked, subacute-chronic lymphoplasmacytic uveitis (iritocyclitis), conjunctivitis and keratitis with multifocal corneal ulceration, neovascularization and edema; Marked, multifocal subacute lymphoplasmacytic vasculitis (arteritis and periarteritis)

Etiology: Ovine herpesvirus 2 (OvHV-2)

Confirmed with PCR of brain
Malignant Catarrhal Fever (MCF)

- Family Herpesviridae
- Subfamily Gammaherpesvirinae
- Genus Macavirus
- Ovine herpesvirus-2 (OvHV-2)
  - endemic, worldwide
Malignant Catarrhal Fever (MCF)

- Family Herpesviridae
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- Ovine herpesvirus-2 (OvHV-2) - endemic, worldwide

- Caprine herpesvirus-2 (CpHV-2) (alopecia and weight loss in deer)
- MCFV-Ibex, MCFV-WTD
- Alcelaphine herpesvirus-1 (AHV-1)*

*REPORTABLE TO THE OIE

Can be transmitted by aerosol up to 5km away
Pathogenesis

• Infection through inhalation and replication in the lungs
• Tropism for T cells
• Induces immune system deregulation and lymphoid proliferation

O’Toole and Li. 2014. Veterinary Pathology. 51: 437

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Other gorgeous lesions of MCF

O’Toole and Li. 2014. Veterinary Pathology. 51: 437

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Questions?

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References


• O’Toole D, and H Li. 2014. The Pathology of Malignant Catarrhal Fever, with an emphasis on Ovine herpesvirus 2. Veterinary Pathology 51:437-452.
