CEREBRAL ABSCESS IN A CALF (A14-14465)

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Signalment and History

- 8-day-old female Aberdeen Angus
- Poor body condition
- Diarrhea, strabismus and opisthotonus

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Necropsy and Histology
Morphologic diagnosis

- Periventricular cerebral abscess, with fibrinosuppurative ventriculitis, periventricular encephalitis, intralesional Gram-negative bacilli, and secondary hydrocephalus

- Diffuse, moderate lymphoplasmacytic and eosinophilic enterocolitis and typhlitis
Ancillary tests

- Aerobic bacterial culture: *Citrobacter koseri* (brain)

- Bacterial culture for *Salmonella* spp.: negative

- Neonatal diarrhea panel (bovine rotavirus, bovine coronavirus, BVDV, *E. coli* K99 and F41 antigens, and *Cryptosporidium parvum*): negative

- Fecal flotation: negative
Comments

- Neonatal septicemia/endotoxemia

- Source of pathogenic bacteria

- DDx

- Failure of passive transfer colostrum in a calf – Septicemia and meningitis
- *C. koseri* – Family: *Enterobacteriaceae*. Part of the normal flora in humans and other animals

- Gram-negative bacilli – predilection for CNS (survival within macrophages)

- Meningitis and abscesses in newborn babies

- *C. koseri* infection in cattle

Vaz Marecos et al.  
*BMJ Case Reports*, 2012.
Thanks!

- Daniel Rissi
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