A German Shepherd Dog With Chronic Bloody Diarrhea
Case # 1106261

SHELLEY A. CHU, CINZIA MASTRO RILLI, PETE CHRISTOPHERSON, EVA A. SARTIN, AMANDA SNELGROVE, KENDON KUO

DEPARTMENT OF PATHOBIOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF CLINICAL SCIENCES, AUBURN UNIVERSITY CVM

Permission granted only for viewing on SEVPAC website
Signalment, History, and Physical Exam Findings

- 3 year-old, male castrated, German Shepherd Dog

- 2 month history of anorexia, weight loss, and bloody diarrhea

- Presented in lateral recumbency, tachycardic, tachypnic, and a fever of 107.8°F

- Suspected septic shock
Abdominal Fluid Analysis

- **High Cellularity**
  - WBC 150,510/µL

- Predominant cell: nondegenerate neutrophils

- Mixed bacteria intra-/extracellularly
Pythiosis

- Pythium insidiosum

- Aquatic organism produces motile biflagellate zoospores

- Cutaneous/subcutaneous lesions
  - Extremities, ventral neck, tail, and perineum

- Gastrointestinal lesions
  - Thickened proximal portion of gastrointestinal tract and abdominal masses
  - Chronic wasting disease
Treatment Options

- Complete surgical resection

- Antifungal medication
  - Interferes with ergosterol biosynthesis
  - Pythium lacks ergosterol in cytoplasmic membrane

- Combination of surgical resection, antifungal medications, and immunotherapy


Questions??

Permission granted only for viewing on SEVPAC website