



Diagnostic ExerciseFrom The Davis-Thompson Foundation*

Question Sheet

Case # 171 Month: August Year: 2021

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Clinical History: Two raccoons died in a pre-release rehabilitation pen in an interval of 1.5 weeks after appearing healthy. The second raccoon, a juvenile female, was submitted for postmortem examination.

Necropsy Findings: In the small intestine, the subserosa is markedly hyperemic/congested (Fig. 1) with abundant watery, semi-translucid content and large amounts of tan-white mucus. The intestinal wall is thickened, and the mucosa is smooth and overlaid by thick mucus (Fig. 2). The large intestine contains moderate amounts of tan-yellow, mucoid digesta. Mesenteric lymph nodes are enlarged, the parenchyma is red and mildly protrudes on cut section.

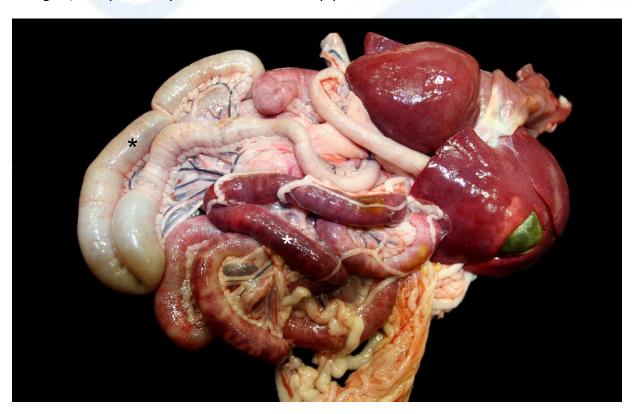


Figure 1. Digestive tract, raccoon, observed the dark-red and slightly sacculated appearance of the small intestine (white asterisk). The large intestine does not depict significant gross findings (black asterisk).



Figure 2. Jejunum, raccoon, two open segments of the jejunum, the mucosa is markedly smooth and covered with tan-white mucus.

Follow-up questions:

Please provide:

- Typical microscopic findings of the disease
- Etiological diagnosis
- Most common blood work abnormality.

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