



Diagnostic Exercise

From The Davis-Thompson Foundation

Question sheet

Case: **190**; Month: **June**; Year: **2022**

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Clinical History: Two male 40-day-old Cobb broilers from a commercial farm in Victoria were submitted for necropsy and diagnostic work up following euthanasia by cervical dislocation. The farm was culling 200 birds/shed (approximately 0.5% of birds) at the time. The submitting veterinarian reported that birds have normal mentation but have paresis or paralysis. The broilers were sitting back on their hocks with legs extended in front of them. Wing walking was also observed. Previous post-mortem examination of one bird one site by the submitting veterinarian showed a small bursa and femoral head necrosis.

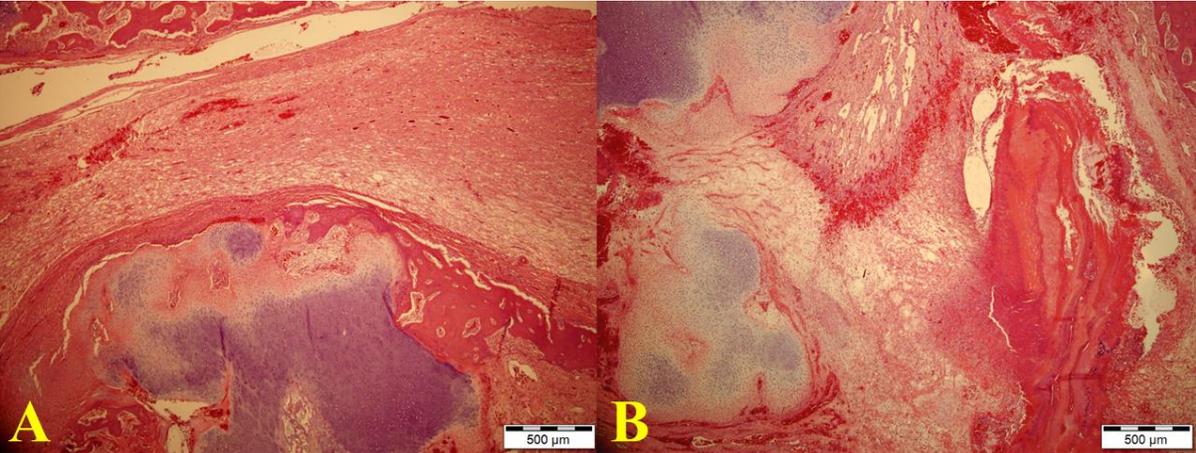
Gross Findings: Both birds examined were well preserved and in good body condition. The free thoracic vertebra was expanded and effaced by a yellow-tan multinodular mass that appeared to be inflammatory, be associated with a presumably pathologic fracture and focally severely compressed the spinal cord (Figure 1). The bisected T4-T5 vertebral sections of both subjects revealed focal red discolouration of the hypaxial muscles surrounding the cord compression focus. The

left femoral head was diffusely markedly red on the articular surface and appeared enlarged compared to the right in both birds. There was some soiling (brown, soft material) of the vent of one bird. The bursa and other organs including other vertebrae examined showed no noteworthy changes grossly.

Gross and Microscopic Images:



Figure 1.



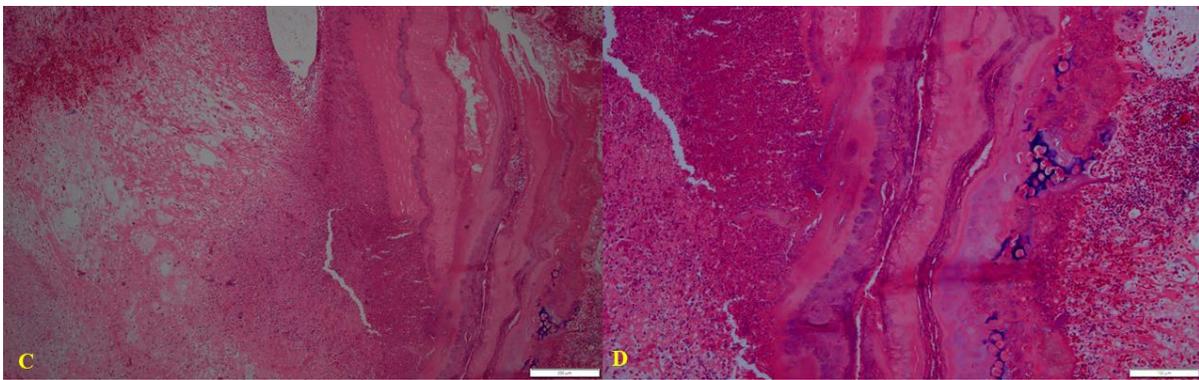


Figure 2.

Follow-up questions:

- *Microscopic description*
- *Morphologic diagnosis*
- *Aetiologic diagnosis*
- *Aetiology*
- *Colloquial name of the condition*

*The Diagnostic Exercises are an initiative of the **Latin Comparative Pathology Group (LCPG)**, the Latin American subdivision of The Davis-Thompson Foundation. These exercises are contributed by members and non-members from any country of residence. Consider submitting an exercise! A final document containing this material with answers and a brief discussion will be posted on the CL Davis website (<https://davisthompsonfoundation.org/diagnostic-exercise/>).

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