# Canine multicentric lymphoma, like it or lump it



**Ana Lara Garcia** DVM PGCert MSc PhD Dip ACVIM & ECVIM-CA (Oncology) Oncology Consultant, IDEXX UK & Spain

### Disclosure

- I am an IDEXX employee
- Legal disclaimer: The information contained herein is intended to provide general guidance only. As with any diagnosis or treatment, you should use clinical discretion with each patient based on a complete evaluation of the patient, including history, physical presentation, and complete laboratory data. With respect to any drug therapy or monitoring program, you should refer to product inserts for a complete description of dosages, indications, interactions, and cautions. Diagnosis and treatment decisions are the ultimate responsibility of the primary care veterinarian.



## Outline: Canine Lymphoma (LSA)

- Epidemiology
- Clinical presentations
- Classification / Biological behaviour / Prognosis
- Diagnostic tests
  - Cytology and ancillary tests
  - Histopathology and immunophenotyping
- Treatment and prognosis





### Canine lymphoma

# Epidemiology

- Most common canine haematopoietic neoplasia
- Breed predisposition: Boxer, Golder Retriever, Rottweiler, WHWT
- Genetic predisposition
- Lymphohematopoietic organs >>extranodal
- Most common presentation is multicentric with peripheral lymphadenopathy
  - +/- spleen/liver/ bone marrow involvement
- As a systemic disease it is treated with chemotherapy
- Other presentations: GI, cutaneous, nasal, ocular, CNS, renal
  differ in prognosis



(Credits: IDEXX)











# Lymphoma







(Pictures courtesy of Dr. G.C. Couto)

### Canine multicentric lymphoma

# Variable biological behavior WHY?

- Different lymphocyte phenotypes (B, T, NK)
- Clonal proliferation at any stage of maturation
- Malignant transformation multifactorial: chromosomal aberrations, breed predisposition, environmental, immunologic...





(Picture: A Lara Garcia)



# Morphologic classification of lymphoma and prognosis

#### 5<sup>TH</sup> EDITION WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO) CLASSIFICATION OF LYMPHOID NEOPLASMS IN HUMANS (2022)

**Treatment** changes with histologic subtype



#### Prognostic

anatomic location

and lymphomas

B-lymphoblastic leukaer rearrangement B-lymphoblastic leukae RUNX1 fusion B-lymphoblastic leukaer features B-lymphoblastic leuka B-lymphoblastic leuka B-lymphoblastic leukae B-lymphoblastic leukaer genetic abnormalities Mature B-cell neoplas Pre-neoplastic and neo proliferations Monoclonal B-cell lymp Chronic lymphocytic leu (Entity deleted) Splenic B-cell lympho Hairy cell leukaemia Splenic marginal zone Splenic diffuse red pulp

Chronic lymphocytic leu (Entity deleted) Splenic B-cell lymphom Hairy cell leukaemia Splenic marginal zone I Splenic B-cell lymphom Splenic B-cell lymphoma Lymphoplasmacytic lymphoma Marginal zone lymphoma Extanodal marginal zone lymphoma of mucosa hymphodi tisue

lymphoid tissue Primary cutaneous marginal zone lymphoma Nodal marginal zone lymphoma Paediatric marginal zone lymphoma Folicular ymphoma Folicular lymphoma Pediatric-towe folicular komphoma

Duodenal-type follicular lymphoma

	KSHV/HHV8-positive unuse large b-cell tymphoma
	KSHV/HHV8-positive germinotropic lymphoproliferative disorder
associated	Lymphoid proliferations and lymphomas associated with immune deficiency and dysregulation
	Hyperplasias arising in immune deficiency/dysregulation
	Polymorphic lymphoproliferative disorders arising in immune deficiency/dysregulation
	EBV-positive mucocutaneous ulcer
	Lymphomas arising in immune deficiency / dysregulation
	Inbom error of immunity-associated lymphoid proliferations

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Intestinal T-cell lymphoma, NOS Hepatosplenic T-cell lymphoma Anapiatic large cell lymphoma Al.K-positive anaplastic large cell lymphoma ALK-positive anaplastic large cell lymphoma Breast implant-associated anaplastic large cell lymphoma Nodal T-follicular helper (TFH) cell lymphoma Nodal T-Hi cell lymphoma, angloimmunoblastic-type Nodal T-Hi cell lymphoma, follicular-type Nodal T-Hi cell lymphoma, NOS Other peripheral T-cell lymphomas Peripheral T-cell lymphomas EBV-positive NOT-cell lymphoma EBV-positive NOT-cell lymphoma

Morphology, immunophenotype (IPT), genetic features and



#### WHO Classification applied to K9 LSA

B Cell Neoplasms	
Precursor B cell neoplasms	
Precursor B lymphoblastic leukemia/lymphoma	
Mature (peripheral) B cell neoplasms	
B cell chronic lymphocytic leukemia/prolymphocytic	
Leukemia/small lymphocytic lymphoma	
B cell prolymphocytic leukemia	
Lymphoplasmacytic lymphoma	
Splenic marginal zone B cell lymphoma	
Plasma cell myeloma/plasmacytoma	
Extranodal marginal zone B cell lymphoma of mucosa-associated lymphoid tissue type	
Nodal marginal zone lymphoma	
Follicular lymphoma	
Mantle cell lymphoma	
Diffuse large B cell lymphoma <sup>a</sup>	
Mediastinal large B cell lymphoma	
Burkitt's lymphoma/Burkitt's cell leukemia	
Provisional entity: high-grade B cell lymphoma	
Burkitt's-likeª	
Primary effusion lymphoma	
T Cell and Putative Natural Killer Cell Neoplasms	
Precursor T cell neoplasm	
Precursor T lymphoblastic	
Lymphoma/leukemia	
Mature (peripheral) T cell and natural killer cell neoplasms	
T cell prolymphocytic leukemia	
Large granular lymphocyte leukemia (LGL)	
Aggressive natural killer (NK) cell leukemia	
Peripheral T cell lymphomas, unspecified <sup>a</sup>	
Adult T cell lymphoma/leukemia	
Intestinal T cell lymphoma (±enteropathy associated)	
Hepatosplenic γδT cell lymphoma	
Subcutaneous panniculitis-like T cell lymphoma	
Mycosis fungoides/Sezary syndrome	
Anaplastic large cell lymphoma, T and null cell primary cutaneous type	
Peripheral T cell lymphoma not otherwise specified	
Angioimmunoblastic T cell lymphoma	
Angiocentric T cell lymphoma	

(Vet Pathol; Valli et al. 2011)

# WHO classification of K9 multicentric lymphoma and prognosis: what do we know?

Association between WHO classification type, disease stage, tumor subtype, mitotic rate and treatment with survival in 456 dogs!!





**Non Indolent** 

DLBCL

# Morphologic classification of canine lymphomas and prognosis: what do we know?

What is all this fuss about??

Isn't it "B for Bad and T for Terrible" when it comes to TREATMENT??



Isn't it that histology is needed for classification?



# WHO classification of K9 multicentric lymphoma and prognosis: what do we know?

### **B-cell lymphomas**

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Diffuse large cell lymphoma

T-cell rich B-cell lymphoma

Marginal cell lymphoma (I)

Lymphoblastic B-cell lymphoma

Follicular lymphoma (I)

Centroblastic

Anaplastic

Immunoblastic







(Pics credit: Dr Wheeler)

### **T-cell lymphomas**

- Lymphoblastic T-cell lymphoma
- Peripheral T-cell lymphoma, not specified
- T-Zone lymphoma (I)
- T-cell lymphoma associated enteropathy
- Mycosis fungoides
- Hepatosplenic T-cell lymphoma
- T-cell lymphoma associated with panniculitis







#### (I=indolent)

Entities recognized by the ACVP lymphoma working group.





# Non indolent multicentric canine lymphoma

- Diffuse large B-cell lymphomas (DLBCL) 60%
- Peripheral T cell LSA- not otherwise specified (PTCL\_NOS) 15%
- Called non indolent as often high grade = rapid progression/dissemination
- Easy to diagnose with cytology plus ancillary tests
  - Flow cytometry/immunocytochemistry
- Histology + immunohistochemistry
- B-cell traditionally treated with CHOP / COP protocols remissions
- New protocols: LOPP improved results for T-cell



(Credits: IDEXX)

(Valli et al. 2013; Vail et al. 2020)



(Credits: Dr CG Couto IDEXX and Nazaré Pinto da Cunha, Cedivet)



# Indolent multicentric canine lymphoma

- Associated to slow progressing behaviour, often despite therapy
- Sometimes Stage I lymph node removal diagnostic & therapeutic

### B cell type: Follicular, Marginal zone and Mantle cell LSA

- - Solely splenic surgery curative in most cases
  - Nodal: clinical behaviour less understood
    - More specific literature needed

(Flood-Knapik et al. 2013; Marconato et al. 2019)



(Pics credit: Dr Wheeler)



## T cell type: Canine multicentric T-zone Lymphoma

- **Indolent** form of LSA slow progression with or without therapy 15%
- 60% have peripheral lymphocytosis no impact in prognosis
- Diagnosis with histology recomended for stage I
- Cytology +Flow cytometry distinctive profile
- Long median survival times around 2 years! even without treatment!
- Periodic monitoring / treatment **only** with clinical signs
  - lymph nodes' size
  - lymphocytosis progressing
- Many dogs do not get in remission with treatment!
  - Non aggressive oral protocols
  - Prednisolone and chlorambucil (alkylating agents)

(J Vet Int Med. Seeling et al. 2014; Martini et al. 2016)





<sup>(</sup>Pics credit: Dr Wheeler)



## Wrap up

- Morphologic classification of canine multicentric lymphoma provides prognostic information and guides therapy
  - WHO classification or as a minimum estimation of grade plus immunophenotype
- Histopathology with IHC allows subclassification of all canine lymphomas
- When diagnosed on cytology, ICC and FCM can allow classification of non-indolent lymphomas
- For T-zone lymphoma (indolent) histology or cytology plus flow cytometry is diagnostic
- Histopathology is needed for the diagnosis of indolent B-cell lymphoma
  - Follicular lymphoma, marginal zone and mantle cell lymphoma



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# Questions?



