Veterinary Science
Preparatory Training for the Veterinary Assistant
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Infectious Diseases: Digestive System

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Objectives

- Discuss some of the infections viruses can cause in the digestive system
- Discuss some of the infections bacteria can cause in the digestive system
- Discuss some of the infections parasites can cause in the digestive system
Stomach and Intestines

- Gastroenteritis – inflammation of stomach and intestines (gastrointestinal track)
- Gastritis – inflammation of stomach
- Enteritis – inflammation of small intestine
- Colitis – inflammation of large intestine (colon)
Gastroenteritis

- Acute and chronic infections – bacteria, viruses, parasites
- Clinical symptoms
  - Excessive salivation
  - Vomiting
  - Diarrhea
  - Straining
  - Abdominal pain
  - Blood in diarrhea if hemorrhage
  - Dehydration
  - Electrolyte imbalance
Bacterial Gastroenteritis

- Salmonellosis
- Enterotoxemia
- Colibacillosis
Viral Gastroenteritis

- Rotavirus
- Coronavirus
- Canine parvovirus
- Feline panleukopenia
- Bovine viral diarrhea (BVD)
- Swine transmissible gastroenteritis (TGE)
Parasitic Gastroenteritis

- Infection, subclinical disease, clinical disease
- Clinical symptoms
  - Diarrhea
  - Blood in diarrhea if hemorrhage
  - Anemia
  - Emaciation – similar to malnutrition
  - Abdominal pain
Flies

- Bots – horses

Nematodes

- Hairworms – ruminants
- Strongyles – horses
- Hookworms – dogs, cats
- Large roundworms – dogs, cats, pigs, horses, poultry
- Whipworms – dogs, swine
Tapeworms – dogs, cats, ruminants, horses

Protozoa
- Coccidia – dogs, cats, ruminants, poultry
- Trichomonas – dogs
- Giardia – dogs
- Hexamita – poultry
Laboratory tests demonstrate:
- Nematode eggs – fecal flotation
- Tapeworm segments – fecal observation
- Protozoa cysts – fecal flotation
- Protozoa motile stages – fecal smear
- Gross necropsy – lesions, worms
- Microscopic necropsy – lesions, protozoa
Liver

- Hepatitis
- Cirrhosis
Hepatitis – Cirrhosis

- Liver flukes – cattle
  - Clinical symptoms
    - Emaciation – similar to malnutrition, GI parasites
    - Anemia
    - Acute liver disease – young cattle
    - Chronic liver disease – older cattle
  - Lab test – fecal sedimentation – fluke eggs
Infectious canine hepatitis (ICH) – dogs

- Clinical symptoms
  - Acute systemic disease (viremia) – liver, kidneys, spleen, lungs