



ECVP/ESVP Summer School in Veterinary Pathology



Marie Curie Training Courses

Summer School 2008 – CNS Case 10

Case 10) S 1662/99 G: Tissue from a DOG

Spinal cord: In the ventral aspects of the spinal cord white matter, there is diffuse severe myelin loss with dilation of myelin sheaths, sometimes containing pale, swollen axons (spheroids) or single histiocytic cells with foamy cytoplasm (myelinophages). Unilaterally, the gray matter displays a spongiform appearance with necrosis of neurons, characterized by hypereosinophilic cytoplasm and fading of nuclei. Focally in the ipsilateral ventral horn, there is severe congestion of blood vessels and focally extensive extravasation of erythrocytes (hemorrhage). Some vessels within this area contain intraluminally located, pale, grayish, fibrillar material, resulting in partial or complete occlusion of the vessel lumen (fibrocartilagenous emboli).

Morphologic diagnosis:

Spinal cord: Myelomalacia, focally extensive, severe, acute with intravascular, fibrocartilagenous embolus

Cause:

Trauma / fibrocartilagenous embolism