

CASE 8

Submitted by Dr. C. L. Dolman, Vancouver General Hospital, Vancouver, Canada

This 3 year old female Golden Retriever had an unremarkable family history, but did not appear entirely normal from birth. Disability was apparently not severe enough to prevent owner from wishing to breed her for pedigreed stock. It was stated that she did not “track right”, i.e. the hind legs did not follow the front of the body. Eventually paralysis of hind legs developed and the animal was euthanized.

Visceral autopsy revealed no abnormalities. The brain was grossly normal.

Stain: Cresyl violet

Diagnosis: Neuroaxonal dystrophy

Points for discussion: What is the diagnosis?
Is there a genetic background?
Any relation to human or other animal disease?