

AANP Slide Session 1969

CASE 6

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This section of medulla oblongata is from a two and one-half year old female Dachshund dog. The animal was presented to our Clinic eleven days before death. Clinical signs of neural disease included progressive general body tremor and ataxia, with occasional masticating movements and signs of blindness (bumping into furniture).

At the time of presentation, segmental and postural reflexes were said to be normal, as was ophthalmic examination. Blood and cerebrospinal fluid (cells, protein) were not remarkable.

The owner stated that the animal, while not bred, had regular estrous periods, and viable ovarian follicles were observed after necropsy. The necropsy was not remarkable, except for the brain. The cerebral hemisphere appeared larger than normal with broad gyri, some rostral-caudal compression of the cerebellum and a subtle suggestion of herniation of the medulla oblongata.

The stain is Luxol blue-cresyl violet. The section is from the medulla oblongata near the obex of the fourth ventricle. Pertinent dorsal nuclei include the accessory cuneate, vagus (sensory and motor) and hypoglossal. One unstained slide is also submitted.