

Male Reproductive Pathology: General Considerations

Common diseases Uncommon diseases Pathogenesis

VetReproPath.com



Normal Anatomy

"Recent" changes

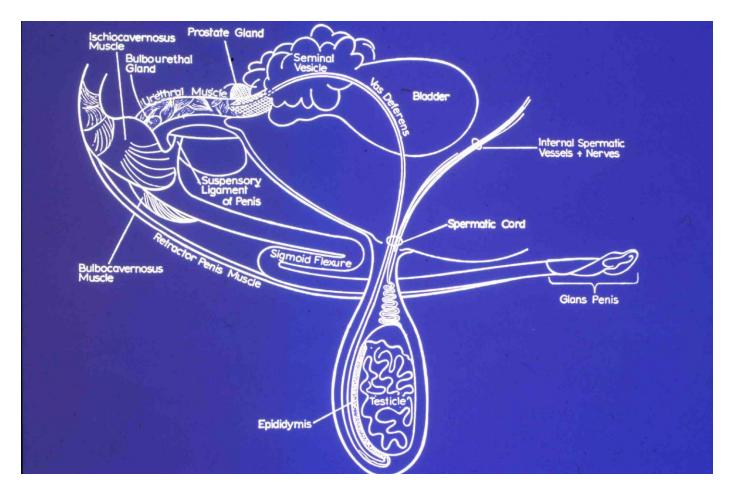
Testis

Vaginal tunics

Deferent duct

Vesicular gland

Head of penis



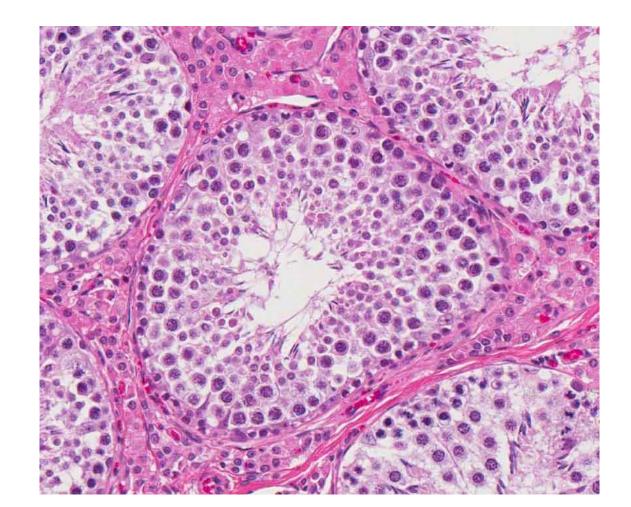


Some cells of the testis

Seminiferous tubule

- Testicular sustentacular (Sertoli) cells
- Germ cells
 - Spermatogonia
 - Spermatocytes
 - Spermatids

Interstitial endocrine cells





Spermatic Granuloma

- Male tract is a unique area immunologically
 Spermatozoa are 'outside' the body
 Blood testis barrier
- Spermatozoa are foreign
 Spermatozoa are immunogenic
 spermiostasis
 spermatocele
 spermatic granuloma





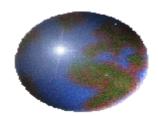
Spermatic granulomas

Think its pus? It may not be!







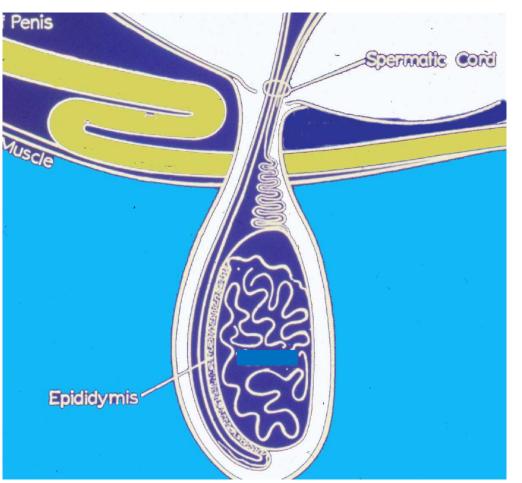


Male Reproductive Pathology Scrotal contents



Clinical scenario

Dog with swollen scrotum – why?







Dog with swollen scrotum

Consider anatomy and physiology

- Scrotal skin
- Vaginal tunics
- Testis
- Epididymis (head, body, and tail; usually tail)
- Spermatic cord (cremaster muscle, deferent duct and pampiniform plexus)
- Inguinal ring and area
- Superficial inguinal (scrotal) lymph node.

Any enlargement of the scrotum or contents can result in swelling



Ancillary tests

- urinalysis
- semen evaluation
- fine needle aspiration/impression smears
- incisional biopsy
- excisional biopsy



Scrotal skin disease

Phase 3 Dermatology/Dermatopathology

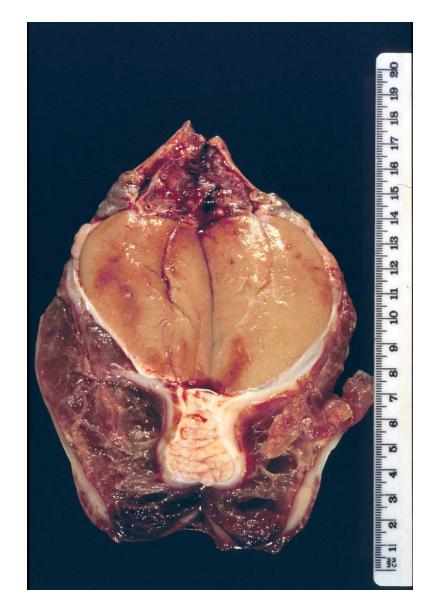
Can be secondary to periorchitis/epididymitis



Vaginal tunics

Periorchitis

- All species gets this
- Often from epididymitis
- Can be from peritonitis
- Cat is exceptionFeline infectious peritonitis





Testis: Small - Hypoplasia

Hypoplasia

- Failure to reach 'normal' at puberty
- systemic and or local effect?
- has reduced tubular diameter, length, germ cell number
- Causes
 - Hereditary?
 - Disorders of Sexual Development
 - Sex chromosome DSD XXY cats, freemartin
 - XX testicular DSD dogs, goats
 - XY testicular DSD all species



Testis: Small - Hypoplasia

Hypoplasia

All these testes were from rams of the same age





Testis: Small – Cryptorchidism Cryptorchidism XY testicular DSD Why was there maldescent

- genetic
- hormonal
- structural
- environmental (outbreaks)







Testis: Small – Cryptorchidism

\$ Is it a cryptorchid?

- All species
 - Serum hormone testing (Testosterone, AMH, Inhibin)
- Cat
 - Penile spines (barbs, papillae)
- 🛚 Dog
 - Palpate prostate
- Horse
 - rectal palpation



Testis: Small – Cryptorchidism

Your dog is a cryptorchid – why neuter? Adverse outcomes of cryptorchidism

- Torsion
- Neoplasia
- Reduced fertility
- Heritable trait



Testis: Small – Atrophy

- Atrophy/degeneration
 - Atrophy is a gross term, degeneration is histology
 - Brown coloration
 - MineralizationFibrosis







Testis: Large

Compensatory hypertrophy Neoplasia DDX epididymitis Dog

- sustentacular (Sertoli) cell tumor
- interstitial cell tumor
- seminoma
- Horse
 - seminoma (old), teratoma (young)

Testis: Large; Neoplasia

Sustentacular (Sertoli) cell tumor Is white and tough

Hyperestrogenism syndrome

- Not all have inc. serum estrogen
- Feminisation
- Gynecomastia
- Alopecia
- Bone marrow suppression





Testis: Large; Neoplasia

- Interstitial cell tumour
 Tan with haemorrhage
 Bulges
 - Testis is brown from?



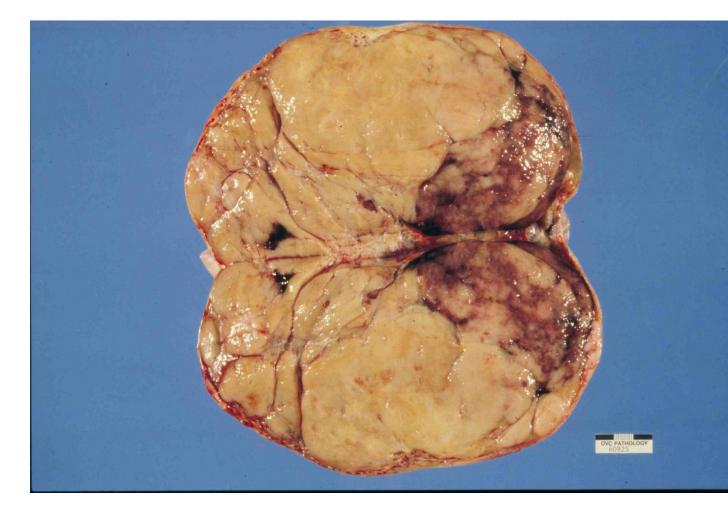


Testis: Large; Neoplasia

Seminoma

🖸 Dog

- White, bulges and is homogeneous
- Horse
 - Pale yellow and lobulated
- Which species is this one?





Testis: Torsion

Testicular torsion
 Retained testis all species
 Stallions

+ retained testis
+ sustentacular (Sertoli) cell tumor





Epididymis

Epididymis is one duct and meters long.

- `Too big or too small"
- Congenital disease
 - Spermatic granuloma of the epididymal head
 - Hypoplasia
 - Segmental aplasia of mesonephric duct
- Epididymitis

