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Veterinari Medicina

Endoscopy-assisted tracheal reconstruction of post-traumatic obstruction in a cat: a case report

Pietra M, Pisoni L, Linta N, Pinna S, Romagnoli N, Diana A

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A domestic shorthair cat was referred with a history of dyspnoea and lethargy that had arisen gradually within the last few days. The cat had been hit by an automobile 10 days earlier. A thoracic radiograph suggested stenosis of the intrathoracic trachea, proximal to the tracheal bifurcation. Endoscopic examination confirmed a narrowing of the tracheal lumen due to the presence of a fibrotic ring, with remaining patent lumen of about 2 mm. A surgical treatment with a right lateral thoracotomy approach and resection of the narrowed portion of the trachea (a length of about 1 cm) was performed under endoscopic vision. The

procedure was unsuccessful because of the size of the tissue removed and the laxity of the remaining tracheal tissue that caused dehiscence of sutures between the tracheal stump and tracheal bifurcation. After consultation with the cat's owners, an intraoperative euthanasia was performed.

Keywords:

cat; dyspnoea; endoscopy; radiographic findings; tracheal stenosis

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