

DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING OF ESOPHAGEAL FOREIGN BODIES



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OBJECTIVES

The objective of this project is to make a bibliographic research about the imaging diagnosis of oesophageal foreign bodies to know in what breed of dogs are more common to find this pathology. I also make a comparison between the data reported in the literature and the cases received at the Veterinary Clinical Hospital of the UAB (HCV-UAB).

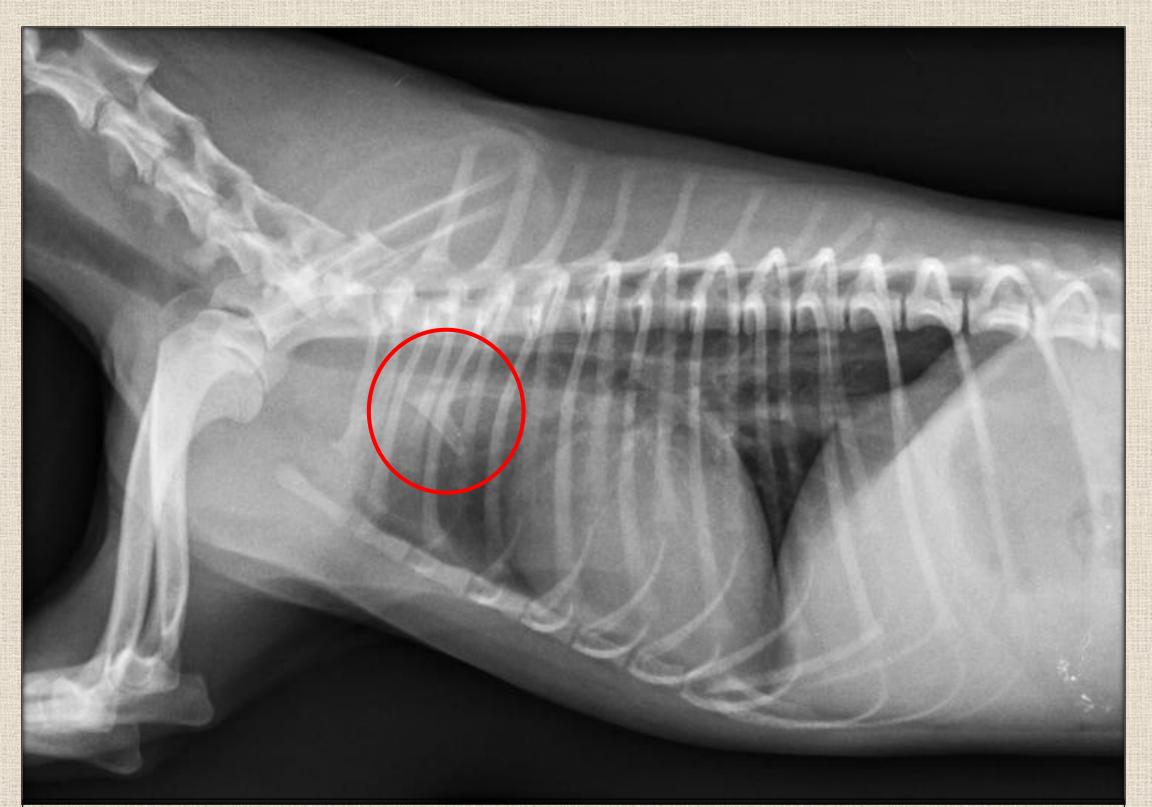
INTRODUCTION

The most affected animals by esophageal foreign bodies are Terrier dogs (above all WHWT), between 2 and 3 years old.

The most common areas of obstruction are:

- Cervical oesophagus
- Cranial thoracic oesophagus
- Caudal thoracic oesophagus (the most common)

Usually, to diagnose this pathology a survey radiographic study is the most convenient technique, although sometimes a positive contrast is required. Esophagogram, fluoroscopy, ultrasound and endoscopy are good techniques to diagnose, but are more expensive and invasive.



Picture 1. Chest x-ray of a dog with a bone in the cranial thoracic esophagus.



Picture 2. Chest x-ray with contrast of a dog with a intraluminal mass in the caudal thoracic esophagus.

CONCLUSIONS

With the data collected from the HCV-UAB, we can conclude that almost all the results are similar to those described in the literature. The only data that does not match with those from the literature is the average age of the dogs with esophageal foreign body in our study. It is clear that the incidence of obstructions by bones is high. This reflects that still people are not aware of not giving animals homemade diet or giving them bones and meat without supervision.

