Study of traumatic injuries caused by wild boar in hunting dogs

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INTRODUCTION

Due to the exponential increase of the wild boar *(Sus scrofa)* during the last decades throughout the peninsula, it is allowing these wild animals to get closer to the population, and adopt less respect and more aggressiveness towards humans and their pets. Dogs have been used for hunting for centuries and it is during hunts that they are exposed to a series of injuries, which are becoming more and more common.

OBJECTIVES

The present study investigates the patterns of traumatic wounds that can be suffered by hound dogs caused by wild boar during hunting days. These have been related to the genetic and racial characteristics of the dogs used, being able to evaluate and predict the severity of these injuries with their treatments and evolution.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Survey of **55 dog owners** from all over Spain about the most typical injuries to their dogs caused by wild boar this last year. In addition, a series of clinical cases of dogs with wild boar lesions, which occurred during the 2021-2022 season in the province of Huesca, have been compiled.

RESULTS

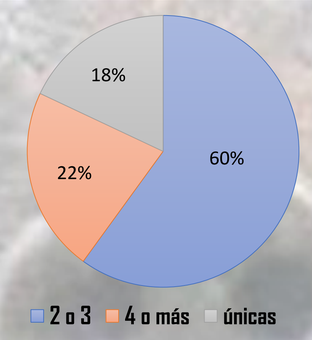


Fig 1.Number of breeds

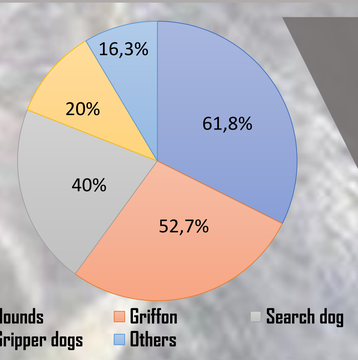


Fig 2.Breeds in crew

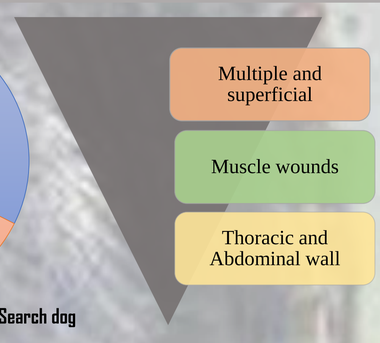


Fig 3.Type of lesions

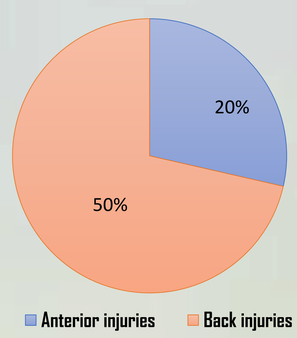


Fig 4.Patterns of lesions

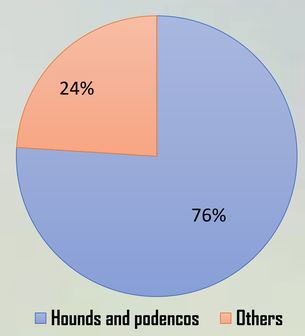


Fig 5.Mortality

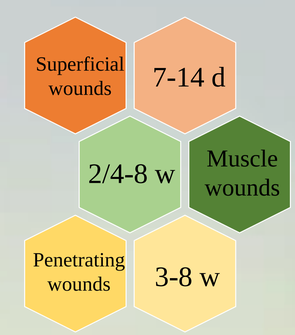


Fig 6. Evolution of lesions

CLINICAL CASES

Case 1

Fig 1. Multiple craneal lesions

❖2 Superficial wounds
❖2 muscle wounds
❖Recovery in 2 weeks

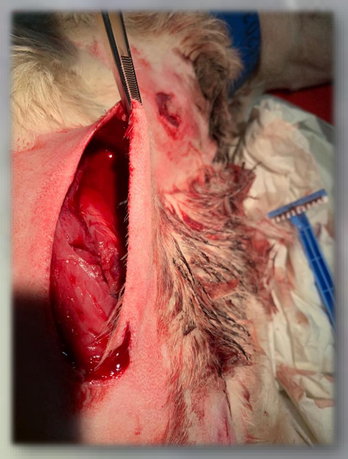
Case 2

Fig 2. Multiple body lesions

❖2 Superficial wounds
❖1 muscle wound
❖Recovery in 2 weeks

Case 3

Fig 3. Penetrating thoracic injury



❖Muscle injury
❖Penetrating wound in thoracic cavity
❖Recovery in 8 weeks

Case 4

Fig 4. Penetrating abdomen injury

❖Muscle injury
❖Penetrating wound in abdominal cavity
❖Recovery in 2 weeks

Case 5

Fig 5. Single stab injury in groin

❖Deep puncture
❖Main vessel injury
❖Recovery in 2 weeks

Case 6

Fig 6. Traumatological lesion

❖Tibia fracture
❖Internal bleeding
❖Postoperative death

CONCLUSIONS

- ✓ Both males and females can be affected and the pattern of lesions will be different depending on their breed and character.
- ✓ The most common lesions in dogs are multiple and superficial lesions, followed by muscular lesions and finally perforating lesions in cavities.
- ✓ The genetics and toughness of these dogs justifies the low mortality rate even when suffering multiple and serious injuries.
- ✓ Quick action by the hunter, good hygiene and disinfection of wounds and good post-surgical care will decrease infections and recovery time significantly.