

# Perianal Melanocytic Tumors in thirteen dogs.

A. Berrocal. Laboratorio de Patología Diagnóstica (Histopatovet), Heredia, Costa Rica.

## Introduction

Perianal adenoma, adenocarcinoma, and apocrine gland adenocarcinoma of the anal sacs are the most reported tumors of the perianal area in dogs. On the contrary, perianal melanocytic neoplasias are infrequently reported as this type of neoplasia is more common in other locations such as skin, oral cavity and subungual.

## Objectives

To present a group of 13 dogs with a melanocytic tumor all of them originated from the perianal region.

## Methods

A retrospective computer search was carried out in span of 10 years with three key words: Melanocytic, Dogs, Perianal.

## Results

Twelve cases were obtained from biopsies samples. They were processed routinely for histopathological examination. Eleven were classified as malignant neoplasias, one case was benign. Moreover, one case was a fine needle aspiration with malignant features.

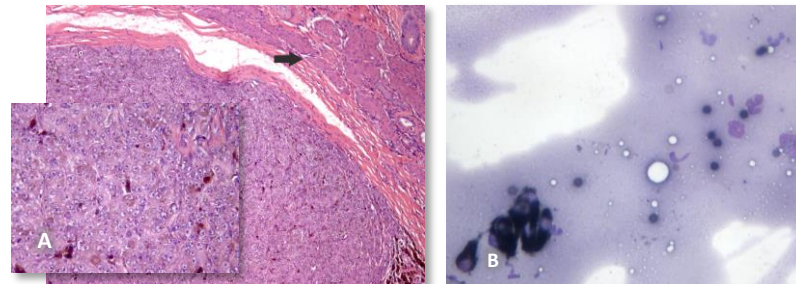
Signalment: There were 13 dogs, (5 mixed breed, 4 Doberman, 2 Schnauzers, 1 American Staffordshire Terrier and 1 Rottweiler). The age was between 7 to 16 years (13 median). There were 9 males and 4 females. The reason the pet was presented to the clinic was a mass causing discomfort or bleeding after ulceration. From the 11 cases classified as malignant only in 4 the follow-up was available. 2 out 4 dogs had via pelvic lymph node abdominal invasion (metastasis).



**Fig 1-A.** A-12-year-old- fertile male mixed-Rottweiler dog. A perianal ventral mass with white and dark colors.

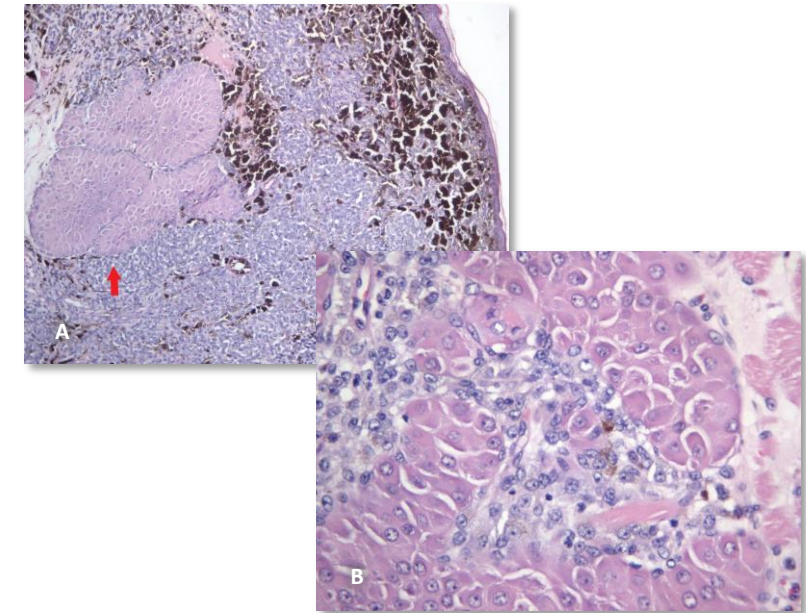
**Fig.1-B.** A-15-year-old- fertile male mixed Doberman Pincher-Chihuahua dog. A mass located ventrally to the anus. It is round and very dark.

**Fig.1-C.** A-13-year-old mixed (age no reported). A reddish dark mass is present in almost all perianal area.



**Fig 2-A.** Microscopic aspect. In the upper right corner, perianal normal glands are present (see arrow). The inset. A solid cellular growth with few pigmented cells.

**Fig.2-B.** A cytologic features of case Fig.A-1. In the bottom left corner there are a group of heavy pigmented cells.



**Fig.3-A.** A partially pigmented neoplastic cell. The arrow is showing a group of normal perianal cells (abundant pink cytoplasm).

**Fig.3-B.** A congregation of normal perianal cells invading by neoplastic melanocytic ones.

## Conclusions

Reviewing the literature, only a few isolated melanocytic neoplasias from the perianal region have been published. To our knowledge this is first report of a group of thirteen cases.

