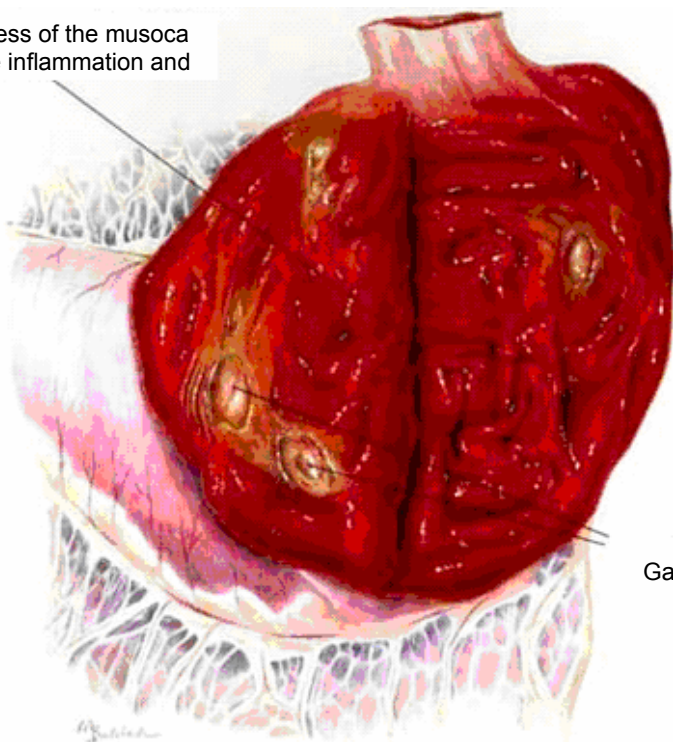


Hemorrhagic Gastritis with Ulcers

Diffuse redness of the musoca due to active inflammation and hemorrhage



Gastric ulcers

Hemorrhagic Gastritis with Ulcers

Diagnostic Plan

History
Physical examination
Blood work
Stool check for blood
Stool check for parasites
Urinalysis
X-rays of the stomach
Endoscopy
Gastric fluid analysis
Gastric biopsy

Therapeutic Plan

Nothing orally for 12 to 24 hrs
Fluid therapy
Gastric lavage
Antiemetic drugs
Whole blood
Antacids
Drugs to inhibit gastric acid secretion
Surgery

Nutritional Plan

Nutrition based on overall patient evaluation including body condition and other organ systems.
Nutrition with moderate to low levels of fat, fiber, and protein to minimize dietary-induced delays in gastric emptying
For pets with gastritis caused by food allergy, a hypoallergenic food

Hemorrhagic Gastritis with Ulcers

Your pet has hemorrhagic gastritis with ulcers. Gastritis is an inflammation of the stomach. Severe gastritis is often characterized by bleeding and ulcer formation. Treatment includes removing the cause, resting the stomach, and prescribing medications and an easily digested, nonirritating food to promote healing. This client education sheet will help you learn more about this condition and will review your veterinarian's instructions for your pet's care at home, as well as follow-up with the veterinary health care team.

What You Should Know About Hemorrhagic Gastritis with Ulcers

The stomach stores food, produces digestive juices such as acids, and moves food through the digestive tract in a timely fashion. Gastritis, which is very common, is an inflammation of the stomach. Hemorrhagic gastritis with ulcers is a more severe form of gastritis in which the surface of the stomach is inflamed and eroded and may bleed easily.

Causes

There are many causes of gastritis, and many of these causes can also lead to ulcer formation. These causes include bacterial, viral, and fungal organisms, toxins produced by bacteria in spoiled food, chemicals, such as fertilizers, stress, drugs, such as aspirin, allergies to food, diseases in other organs, especially the kidneys and liver, tumors, and foreign bodies such as bones, toys, plastic wrappers, and plants.

Signs

The two most significant signs associated with gastroenteritis are vomiting and diarrhea. Licking, salivation, or repeated attempts at swallowing are signs of nausea. Other signs might include belching, increased thirst, craving unnatural articles of food (dirt, house plants, grass).

Diagnosis

Your veterinarian may suspect hemorrhagic gastritis with ulcers if your pet has a history of vomiting in which the vomited material contains blood. The fluid loss associated with the vomiting and diarrhea may result in dehydration. Your veterinarian may need to perform several or all of the following tests to try to confirm the diagnosis and identify the cause; a physical examination, blood tests, a urinalysis, a stool check for blood and parasites, and x-rays of the stomach, often using a contrast agent. Your veterinarian may want to examine the stomach with a lighted instrument call an endoscope. Sometimes a surgical exploration of the stomach is necessary.

Treatment and Home Care

Specific treatment depends on the cause. If, for example, your veterinarian determines that chronic kidney failure is the cause of gastritis, he or she will begin treatment for kidney failure. Foreign bodies will need to be removed, etc.

Severe gastric bleeding needs aggressive therapy. Your veterinarian may want to hospitalize your pet to rehydrate and restore lost electrolytes. Rest to relieve the stomach of the functions described earlier is important. Food may be withheld because food and water distend the stomach, causing motility (movement) and acid secretion, which cause more damage. Therefore several days of rest for the stomach may help decrease inflammation. During this time, your veterinarian will administer fluids to help prevent dehydration and provide necessary nutrients. Your veterinarian may also prescribe antibiotics or medications to inhibit acid secretion in the stomach.

Home care consists of following your veterinarian's instructions for proper feeding for your pet and giving all prescribed medications. Your veterinarian will schedule follow-up appointments for diagnostic tests to check the healing progress of your pet's stomach.

Nutritional Plan

If your pet has hemorrhagic gastritis with ulcers, your veterinarian may give you special feeding instructions. High-fiber foods are abrasive to the stomach lining, and fats delay stomach emptying. Therefore, foods for treatment of stomach disorders should avoid excesses of these nutrients and be highly digestible to help reduce the digestive functions required of the stomach. Foods that avoid these harmful excesses and provide proper nutrition for middle-aged and older dogs include Hill's® Prescription Diet® Canine i/d®. Cats with digestive disorders often benefit from a highly digestible food such as Hill's® Prescription Diet® Feline i/d® or Feline g/d®.

If your pet is allergic to some substance in its food, your veterinarian may recommend a food composed of ingredients that your pet is unlikely to have eaten such as Hill's® Prescription Diet® Canine or Feline d/d®. Alternately, your veterinarian may recommend a food made of hydrolyzed proteins which eliminate adverse reactions to food. Such foods include Hill's® Prescription Diet® Canine and Feline z/d®.

Transitioning Food

Unless recommended otherwise by your veterinarian, gradually introduce any new food over a seven-day period. Mix the new food with your pet's former food, gradually increasing its proportion until only the new food is fed.

If your pet is one of the few that doesn't readily accept a new food, try warming the canned food to body temperature, hand feeding for the first few days, or mixing the dry food with warm water (wait ten minutes before serving). However, do not add water to your cat's food. Feed only the recommended food. Be patient but firm with your pet. This is important because the success or failure of treatment depends to a large degree on strict adherence to the new food.

Presented as an educational service by



Home Care Instructions

Client's Name: _____

Patient's Name: _____

Medication(s): _____

Nutritional Recommendation: _____

Follow-Up Appointment: _____

(Hospital Stamp Area Above)

REGULAR VISITS WILL HELP OUR VETERINARY HEALTH CARE TEAM PROVIDE FOR YOUR PET'S BEST INTEREST.