

Rounds

Animal Health
Department

Medical Rounds

"medicine for all"



Caring for Stranded Marine Animals

NATIONAL
MARINE
L I F E
CENTER

Notes

Veterinary Research
Department

Under the microscope

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Rounds Notes is a report on the health of animals at the National Marine Life Center from Sea Rogers Williams VMD for the staff, volunteers, and community of the center including professionals involved the captive care of similar species, the views expressed are not necessarily that of NMLC. Information in Rounds Notes should be considered confidential and used solely to benefit the health of aquatic animals everywhere.

December 4, 2012

Rounds Notes

9: 30-33(2012)

Headlines News: What beats a Full House*

Cold Stunned Sea Turtles Arrive from NEAq

Meet the turtles . . .

To assist the New England Aquarium which is currently inundated with critically ill endangered Kemp's Ridley turtles, the NMLC stood ready to receive 8 Kemp's Ridley turtles, who have been treated for hypothermia, lactic acidosis, dehydration, and trauma. All are swimming, at nominal sea turtle temperatures and eating, but all have suffered an immuno-compromising event, so hold on, it can be a rocky ride. But first, seals . . .

Phocids, the true seals:

Towsend

We pulled the drain, but caseous material continues to be flushed from the opening, this is the very nature of a drain, and the whole purpose was to allow drainage of this material, which is no longer trapped in the middle ear. While the identity of the bacteria are still unknown an early sensitivity test shows enrofloxacin (the antibiotic Townsend is currently on) to be ineffective, so we are switching to an appropriate choice, in this case ceftifur.



Hotlips

Hotlips loves the pool, is finishing up a course of Clavamox, and eating well. The face lesions continue to contract and she has no problems diving and keeping her nostrils sealed (sorry).

We need to put some weight on her, and screen for Morbilli prior to release.



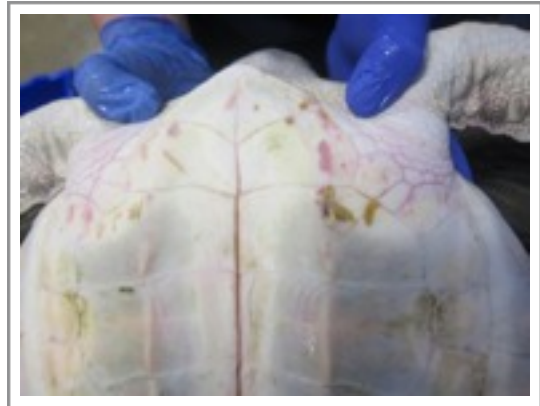
'tiny' Topsy-20

blood gases ok
 elevated ALKP, and LDH
 elevated chol and glucose
 elevated WBC
 monitor lesions on L elbow

on Ceftaz [ceftazadime 22 mg/kg IM q3d, 3 weeks]
 [sea tabs 1/4 tab in food SID]
 [calcium 500 mg 1/4 tab in food SID]
 [SSD, topical to scuffs, abrasions, and scratches]

**Gerald -21**

blood gasses ok
 elevated ALKP
 elevated chol and glu (was hypoglycemia)
 no LDH or CK reported
 monitor plastron and skin ulcers, and bruising
 was anemic, resolved, one injection of iron was given
 on Ceftaz [ceftazadime 22 mg/kg IM q3d, 3 weeks]
 [sea tabs 1/4 tab in food SID]
 [calcium 500 mg 1/4 tab in food SID]
 [SSD, topical to scuffs, abrasions, and scratches]

**Betsy-22**

mild slow resolving acidemia
 increased LDH
 mild increase in chol, glu, calcium, potassium (was low) and uric acid
 monitor lesion dorsal to nares

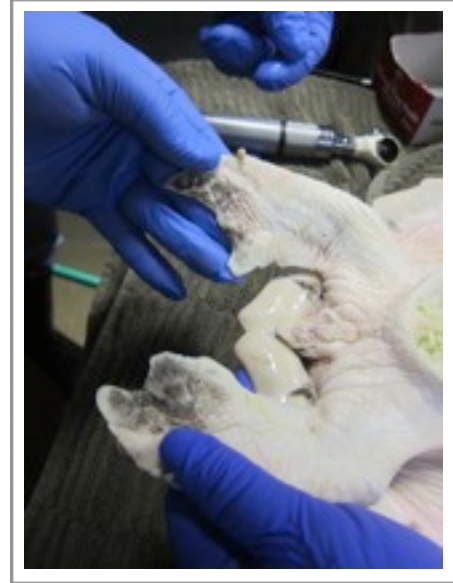
on Ceftaz [ceftazadime 22 mg/kg IM q3d, 3 weeks]
 [sea tabs 1/4 tab in food SID]
 [calcium 500 mg 1/4 tab in food SID]
 [SSD, topical to scuffs, abrasions, and scratches]



‘wild’ Walter-23 ‘the bully’

slight increases in ALT, LDH
 decreased albumin
 increased chol and K (was low)
 no uric acid value
 missing portions of hind flippers (old injury, healed)

on Ceftaz [ceftazadime 22 mg/kg IM q3d, 3 weeks]
 [sea tabs 1/4 tab in food SID]
 [calcium 500 mg 1/4 tab in food SID]
 [SSD, topical to scuffs, abrasions, and scratches]

**Carolyn-24**

CBC/CP (reptile profile, pending)
 blood gasses ok resolved metabolic acidosis
 monitor carpace pits (R & L 4th lateral scute)
 monitor front flipper tip lesions
 on Ceftaz [ceftazadime 22 mg/kg IM q3d, 3 weeks]
 [sea tabs 1/4 tab in food SID]
 [calcium 500 mg 1/4 tab in food SID]
 [SSD, topical to scuffs, abrasions, and scratches]

**Phoenix-25**

mild increase in LDH, chol. and glucose (improved)
 increased uric acid
 eye lid injury
 resolved metabolic acidosis
 consider fluid therapy
 eye lid lesions
 on Ceftaz [ceftazadime 22 mg/kg IM q3d, 3 weeks]
 [sea tabs 1/4 tab in food SID]
 [calcium 500 mg 1/4 tab in food SID]
 [NEO/PLOY/BAC, topical ophthalmic oint. OU, to eyelids]
 [SSD, topical to scuffs, abrasions, and scratches]

radiographs due



Ernest -26

increased ALK, LDH, and CK
 decreased albumin
 hyperglycemia and low phosphorus
 tending towards acidosis
 resolving metabolic acidosis

on Ceftaz [ceftazadime 22 mg/kg IM q3d, 3 weeks]
 [sea tabs 1/4 tab in food SID]
 [calcium 500 mg 1/4 tab in food SID]
 [SSD, topical to scuffs, abrasions, and scratches]

**Papi -27**

Resolved metabolic acidosis
 resolved increased ALP, AST, CK
 elevated LDH, chol. glu
 increased uric acid
 monitor linear ulcers on head

on Ceftaz [ceftazadime 22 mg/kg IM q3d, 3 weeks]
 [sea tabs 1/4 tab in food SID]
 [calcium 500 mg 1/4 tab in food SID]
 [SSD, topical to scuffs, abrasions, and scratches]



Terrapins, Cooters, and Turtles, oh my . . .

8 growing cooters

All eight cooters are on track, eating well, and growing

*according to Wikipedia, four of a kind, a straight flush, and a royal flush all beat a full house

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 attending veterinarian and director of science



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