



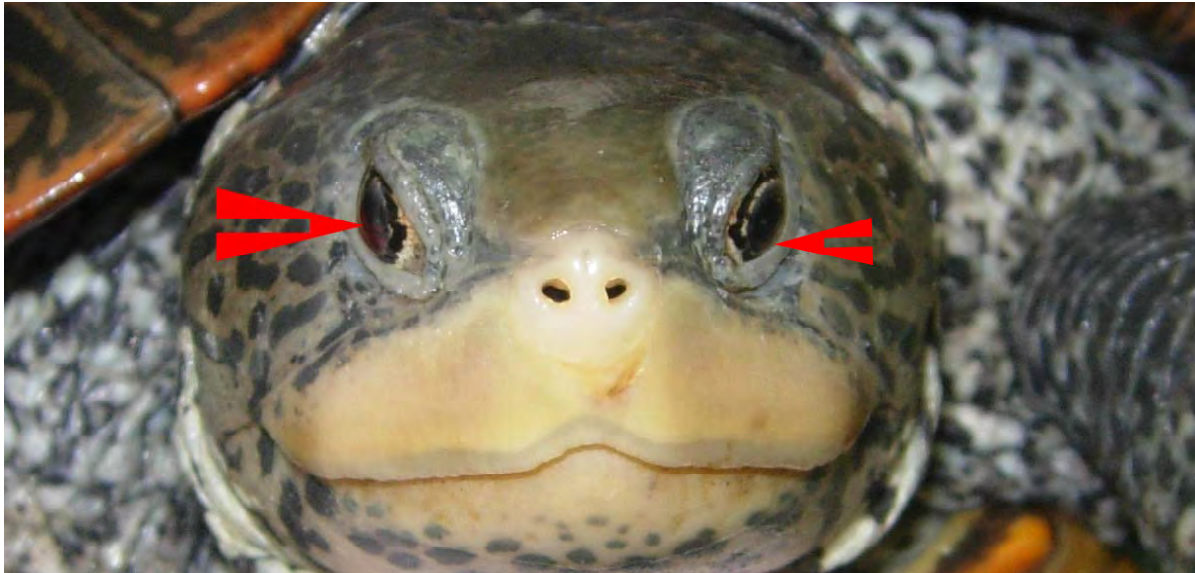
Rounds Notes is a monthly report from Sea Rogers Williams VMD, the views expressed are not necessarily that of the National Marine Life Center. Information in Rounds Notes should be considered confidential and used solely to benefit the health of aquatic animals everywhere.

June 18, 2009

Rounds Notes 12: 30-31 (2009)

Because Patty needs her own issue. . .

Clinical Update: Eyes of the World

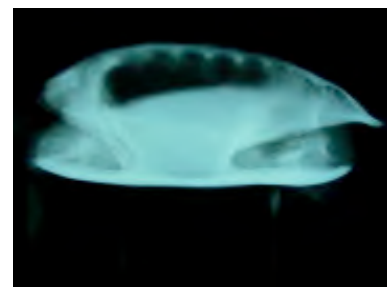


Patty continues to make remarkable progress. The hypemia (blood in the anterior chamber) has resolved from the left eye (O.S.) almost entirely and is greatly improved on the right (O.D.). This is much faster than I expected, and the corneas are still clear with no scarring or synechia. The hind limb paresis continues with the right hind limb more severely effected and some movement in the left, but Patty can do well in the tank and is active (good physical therapy to go along with the passive range of motion exercises we do daily). The skin is starting to concern me and a sore on the right foot plantar surface has developed. I plan to continue the antibiotics for a least another week [ceftazidime 20 mg/kg SQ q3d], and we're increasing the salinity to 16ppt which may also help the skin.

The tail lesion continues to heal well, but butt soaks will still be done (this also helps the skin on the right hind limb). Further topical ophthalmic treatments have been discontinued.

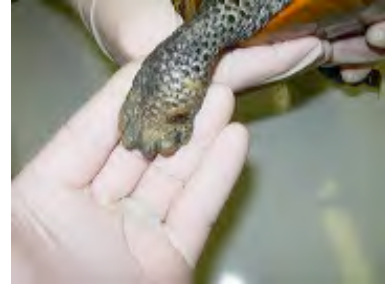


Radiographs did not find evidence of pneumonia, her bone density is reasonable, and no catastrophic lesions to the spinal column were observed, her neurological deficits to the hind limbs did not result from a massive trauma but nerve and muscle



damage, likely a result of the cold shock.

A blood-gas analysis was performed to monitor her progress and the results were satisfactory (but lymph contaminated) and we'll get a complete blood count and serum chemistry profile at the end of antibiotic therapy or sooner if she slides back any.



Patty is a release candidate but she must have sufficient vision to find food and avoid predators and have sufficient use of her hind limbs to make migratory movements, dig deep enough to avoid a repeat of her injuries, and get around in the wild. So we have a long road ahead but wasn't it a turtle who said, 'slow and steady wins the race'

The end . . . for now . . .



C. Rogers Williams VMD

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