

Rounds

Animal Health
Department

Medical Rounds

"medicine for all"



Caring for Stranded Marine Animals

NATIONAL
MARINE
LIFE
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.

September 7, 2010

Rounds Notes

12: 34(2010)

Headlines News: Septic, acidotic, and dehydrated

oh my

Patty is starting to make some head-way towards recovery of her recent infection that lead to sepsis (bacteria in the blood with a whole body response). This is of course a life threatening condition. Broad spectrum antibiotics for sepsis (double the normal dose) were instituted [ceftazadime 30 mg/kg IM SID, enrofloxacin 10 mg/kg IM q5d]. The blood culture grew an isolate of *Vibrio alginolyticus* which was sensitive to the antibiotics Patty is currently taking so we're on the right track. We've backed the cephalosporin to every third day and after two parenteral injections of enrofloxacin we'll continue with oral therapy. Daily fluids and bicarbonate therapy based on frequent blood gas and electrolyte monitoring have finally improved Patty's hydration and we are near acid-base balance.



The large carapacial ulcer is a huge drain on energy, fluid loss and exposure to bacteria. The water is ozone treated and changed daily but still the risk for infection is great. We are taking it day by day and I will not be comfortable until we get Patty eating, currently she is force-fed daily some electrolytes, reptom, and oral re-hydration fluids.

Clinical Update: Catch-22

pending . . .

Fungal samples are still being processed, more in the near future. Meanwhile Catch continues to do and look great.

C. Rogers Williams VMD

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