

PATHOLOGIST REPORT

SOURCE/HISTORY:

An extensive clinical history was provided and reviewed by the pathologist. The history is summarized as follows: Five months old panther chameleon purchased one month ago. An extensive diet and husbandry description is provided. Starting acting off on Tuesday, not going up to basking spot and anorexic.

MICROSCOPIC DESCRIPTION:

Not requested.

MICROSCOPIC INTERPRETATION:

Kidney: Chronic fibrosing and heterophilic nephritis with intratubular urates (gout tophi)

Heart: Heterophilic pericarditis with intralesional urates

Liver: 1. Multifocal heterophilic and necrotizing hepatitis with probably intralesional gout

2. Mild melanomacrophage hypoplasia

Lung, intestine, pancreas, testes: Within normal limits

COMMENTS:

The cause of death is visceral gout. The kidneys are markedly disrupted and fibrotic consistent with end-stage renal disease. I shared these sections with a second board certified pathologist (Dr. Nobrega-Lee) who agrees that the changes in the kidney are beyond the usual lesions of gout and there may have been a previous insult to the kidney to cause the marked fibrosis. However, due to chronicity and fibrosis, it may be difficult to determine the inciting cause. There are also prominent urate deposits with associated inflammation in the liver and pericardial sac. Other tissues are within normal limits.

We are going to perform a special stain on the liver to rule out a secondary acid fast bacterial infection. An addendum will be added.

In reptiles, both the articular and visceral forms of gout are identified. The visceral form is commonly associated with unexpected death without premonitory signs. Hyperuricemia is present. Renal constipation in reptiles may occur due to dehydration, slowing urate clearance and leading to similar histologic changes.

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