



A case report of hepatic cirrhosis in a cockatiel in Mashhad

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Objectives: Liver disease can occur in any avian species but is the most common in cockatiels, budgies, Amazon parrots, Lories, and mynah birds. The main causes of liver disease include tumors, metabolic disorders, circulatory disturbances, nutritional deficiencies or excesses, and a wide variety of toxicities such as heavy metal toxicity, mycotoxins, plant toxins, and toxic chemicals. Cirrhosis is a late stage of scarring (fibrosis) of the liver and it can be caused by bacterial, fungal, viral, protozoan, and parasitic infections. The liver damage done by cirrhosis generally cannot be undone and often has no signs until liver damage is extensive. A healthy liver is critically important for the health of all avian species.

Material & Methods: A female cockatiel (*Nymphicus hollandicus*) without specific clinical signs, died. Therefore, it was essential to perform further investigations for diagnosis. History of the affected bird was taken. The carcass was subjected to necropsy. Gross lesions observed during the necropsy were limited to pulmonary and trachea hemorrhage, liver masses, and excess fat in the carcass. Tissue samples from the liver, spleen, lung, and brain were submitted to a pathology laboratory for pathological examinations.

Results & Conclusion: Findings were consistent with chronic liver disease characterized by distorted hepatic architecture and fibrosis. Although the cause of death was not determined in this case, in this study, we report the clinical pathologic, gross, and histopathologic findings in a cockatiel with hepatic cirrhosis in Mashhad, Iran.

Keywords: Cirrhosis, Chronic hepatitis, Cockatiel, Mashhad.