

Pyometra

A PowerLinks Page Presented By



Pyometra questions typically show up on board exams and can be tricky because there are several ways the disease can present. Any question that asks about a sick female dog, especially if it mentions anything about the last heat or the estrus cycle should make you think about pyometra. Fortunately, there are only a handful of things to ask about which means that if you study the basics, you should be in well-placed to answer the questions. All of the PowerLinks here are reasonably brief and they should reinforce each other, although there are a few important differences.

Pyometra PowerLinks

Theriogenology Journal:

<http://www.x-cd.com/therio06/pdfs/15.pdf>

While this is written like a scientific paper, it is an excellent, concise (2 1/2 page) review of pyometra covering the must-know details and a good section on treatment.

Louisiana State University:

http://www.vetmed.lsu.edu/eiltslotus/theriogenology-5361/cannine%20pyometra_2.htm

This link has some images along with a strong review of the basics on the cause, signs, diagnosis and treatment.

Veterinary Information Network (VIN):

<http://www.vin.com/proceedings/Proceedings.plx?CID=WSAVA2002&PID=2686>

These are VIN conference proceedings notes that review canine pyometra. One good aspect of these notes is the distinct sections on treatment of open-cervix versus closed-cervix pyometra. This is important because on boards, you may see a clinical case with either an open or closed pyometra and have to choose from treatment options which can be different. These notes discuss the use of anti-progestins for closed pyometra, but you should note that the likely answer to how to treat a closed pyometra on boards will be ovariohysterectomy.

American College of Veterinary Surgeons:

<http://www.acvs.org/AnimalOwners/HealthConditions/SmallAnimalTopics/PyometrainDogsCats/>

This is a well put-together review that is easy to read but unfortunately written more for pet owners than for veterinarians. It still nicely explains the disease, signs, complications, and treatments.