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WHAT IS YOUR DIAGNOSIS

Pranee Tuntivanich*



Figure 1 Lateral position of the left femur of a dog

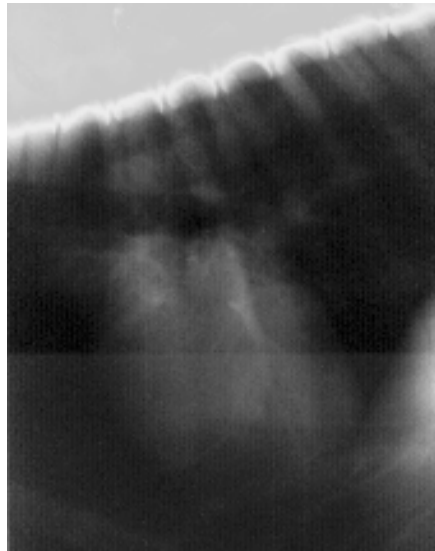


Figure 2 Lateral position of the chest of the same dog.

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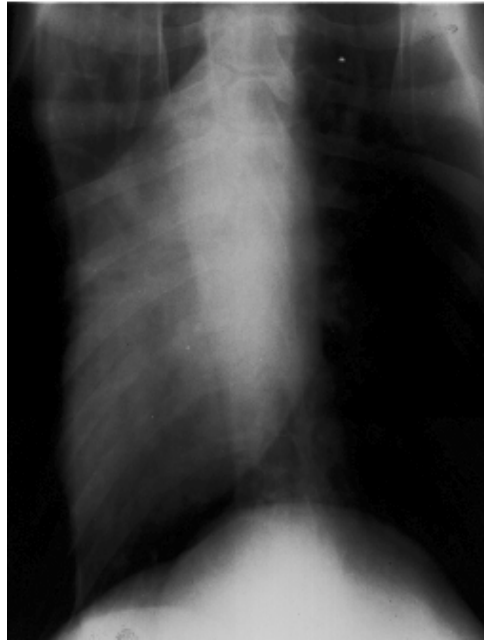


Figure 3 Dorso-ventral position of the chest of the same dog.

History :

An eight year old, male, Great Dane dog had not been able to use its left hind limb for 3 weeks. Luxation of the hip joint was diagnosed by a private practitioner. The leg was swollen.

Radiographs were taken of the left femur and the chest.

Give your diagnosis and turn to page 61

Radiographic Diagnosis

Osteogenic sarcoma of the left femur.

Metastatic disease in the lung.

Radiographic Findings and Comments

Lateral view of the left femur. The bone of the femur has a disorganized appearance. The cortex has been eroded and the bone is extending into the surrounding soft tissue. There is a large soft tissue swelling. A Codman's triangle is present accompanied by areas of lysis and sclerosis which

is characteristic of malignant bone tumors. The lesion usually begins in the metaphysis but rarely crosses a joint space.

Left lateral and dorso-ventral views of the thorax reveal early metastatic spread to the lung. There are multiple small tumour foci which appear as rounded, discrete dense areas in the lung. Osteogenic sarcomas usually metastasize to the lungs. Metastatic foci less than 1 cm. in diameter may not be visible radiographically.