

## CASE REPORT

# Ependymoma in a filly

M. C. de Sousa<sup>1</sup> | A. F. M. S. C. Ferreira<sup>2</sup> | T. C. Peixoto<sup>3</sup> | S. D. S. dos Reis<sup>3</sup> |  
D. C. R. Dias<sup>2</sup> | P. V. Leal<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Institute of Veterinary Medicine, Graduate Program in Veterinary Medicine, Federal Rural University of Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

<sup>2</sup>School of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, Livestock Development Center, District of Oliveira dos Campinhos, Federal University of Bahia, Salvador, Brazil

<sup>3</sup>Department of Anatomy, Pathology and Veterinary Clinics, Federal University of Bahia, Salvador, Brazil

**Correspondence:** M. C. de Sousa

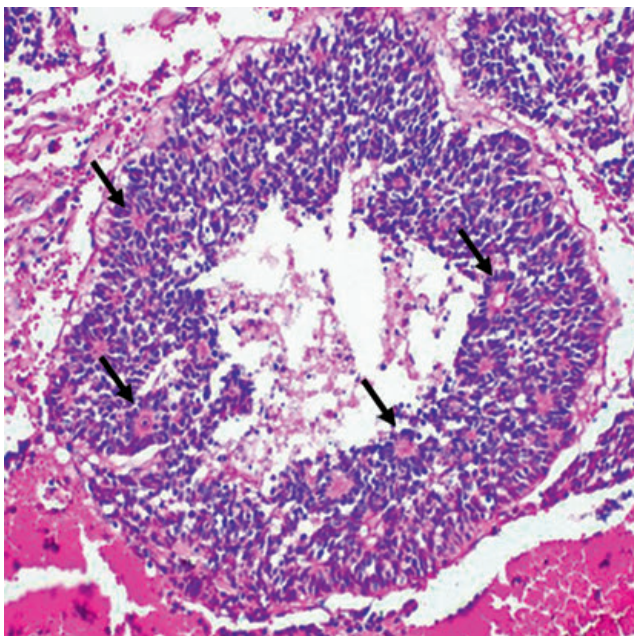
Email: marilainesc@outlook.com

## SUMMARY

A 1-year-old Quarter Horse filly presented with a history of apathy, lack of appetite and a staggering gait. On physical examination, the animal presented a rigid gait, mainly in the posterior limbs, slow gait, with head lowering and head shaking to the right side. Blood count revealed normochromic normocytic anaemia and moderate neutrophilic leukocytosis. During hospitalisation, he began to show motor incoordination, decreased proprioception, hypermetria, tongue flaccidity, reduced response to the threat test, reduced visual acuity and dysphagia. Due to clinical worsening and poor prognosis, euthanasia

and necropsy were chosen for the diagnostic conclusion. During necropsy, when opening the skull, an irregular reddish, gelatinous, infiltrative mass was observed in the fourth ventricle and choroid plexus. Histopathological sections stained with haematoxylin and eosin (H&E) identified a neoplastic process composed of proliferation of moderately pleomorphic ependymal cells arranged in a papillary arrangement forming single or multiple layers that, sometimes organised and arranged in the form of rosettes with a central area filled with eosinophilic amorphous material. The present work reports the clinical, macroscopic, anatomopathological, histopathologic and immunohistochemical findings of an ependymoma in a foal.

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**FIGURE 1** Photomicrograph of an ependymoma. Note the tumour formation in rosettes (arrows). (HE).

## Key points

- The ependymoma corresponds to a neuroepithelial tumour that originates from the ependymal cells.
- There are few reports in veterinary medicine regarding the therapeutic success of neoplastic diseases of the nervous system. In horses, little is mentioned regarding successful treatments.
- Neoplastic diseases should be regarded as a differential diagnosis for disorders of the central nervous system.
- In animals with neurological syndromes, it may be difficult to obtain the antemortem diagnosis solely based on clinical alterations induced by the pathologic process, it is necessary to combine the history and ancillary testing to distinguish the nature of the disease.