Feline Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy (HCM)

Presentation:
- Any age, males more severe than females
- Autosomal dominant in Maine Coon and Ragdoll
- Compensated (no clinical signs other than heart murmur)
- Congestive heart failure (CHF)
  - Tachypnea, dyspnea, open mouth breathing
  - Anorexia, weight loss
- Aortic thromboembolism (TBE) (saddle thrombus)—
  - (4 Ps) Pain, Paralysis, Pallor, Pulselessness

Test of choice:
- Auscultation – tachycardia, murmur, dull ventral lung sounds, crackles
- ECG – tachycardia, supraventricular or VPCs, left atrial dilation (P mitrale), left ventricular hypertrophy (left axis deviation)
- Radiographs – DV: Valentine heart, left atrial bulge at 1-3 o’clock, elongated heart. Lateral: elevated trachea, round heart silhouette
- Echocardiogram – Concentric L. ventricular hypertrophy; ≥ 6 mm septum or L. ventricular free wall (end diastolic thickness), papillary hypertrophy, left atrial enlargement
- MyBPC gene – mutation in Maine Coon and Ragdoll, possibly others

Rx of choice: Chronic HCM 3Ds and rest
- Diet – low sodium, palatable – very important for patient to eat!
- Diuretics – reduce pulmonary edema. furosemide. ± hydrochlorothiazide or spironolactone
- Dilator – ACE inhibitor (enalapril, 2% nitroglycerine); ß-adrenergic blockers (atenolol); Ca++ channel blockers (diltiazem, amplodipine)

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Zuku Review FlashNotes™

Classic Question(s)

What are three possible presentations of a cat with HCM?
List 4 differentials for secondary HCM.

What two breeds of cat are genetically predisposed to HCM?

What are 3 key treatments for feline HCM?

What are 4 signs of aortic thromboembolism in the cat?

List 4 findings on an echocardiogram diagnostic of HCM.
List 4 radiographic findings suggestive of HCM in the cat.