

One Eyed Cold Syndrome in a Pigeon

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Yayın Kodu (Article Code): 2008/26-E

Dear Editor,

In the present article one eyed cold syndrome and its therapy with oxytetracycline was described.

One eyed cold, a common clinical entity in pigeons, is a non-specific disease also known by breeders within synonyms as "eye-cold", "ophthalmia" and "big eye". It may be classified as an eye infection. The condition is usually limited to one eye ^{1,4}. The probable causes are non-specific and multifactorial ^{1,2}. Vitamin A deficiency may be involved in some cases ¹. Swollen eyelids with conjunctivitis and watery ocular discharge may also occur in association with ornithosis, pox, *Mycoplasma spp.*, *Haemophilus spp.*, and PHV1, trichomoniasis and PMV-1 infections. In typical "one-eyed cold" disease, unlikely to all of those aforementioned infections, only the eyes are affected and lesions do not spread ¹. A bird suffering from one eyed cold must be immediately isolated ⁴. The cause of such uncomplicated "eye-colds" is unknown, indeed many diseases respond to local treatment with antibiotic eye ointments ^{1,2,4}.

A two years-old pigeon referred to the University of Ankara, Faculty of Veterinary, Department of Internal Medicine was included in the present article. At the anamnesis, lethargy, lack of appetite and the watery right eye was noticed. On clinical examination, the right eyelid inactivity, the watery right-eye and yellowish exudate at the edge of the eyelid were detected. Based on clinical signs and the admittedly history it was suggested that the condition was one-eyed cold syndrome (Fig. 1).

Oxytetracycline injection (Geosol inj. sol., 5 mg/kg, IM for 5 days) and eye ointment with Oxytetracycline (Terramycin 3.5 gr opht. pom.) were applied to the patient. At the third day of therapy disappearance of

yellowish exudate and partially movement of the eyelid was observed. According to the owner's information, total recovery was seen fifteen days after initial therapy.

Finally we strongly suggest that one eyed-cold syndrome should be considered in pigeons with unilateral eye lesions and oxytetracycline applications are useful for therapy.

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Fig 1. One eyed cold syndrome in pigeon
Şekil 1. Güvercinde one eyed cold sendromu

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