Thoracic Radiography: Respiratory

Jason Arble, DVM, MS, DACVR Assistant Professor, Radiology Center for Veterinary Health Sciences Oklahoma State University

Pulmonary Infiltrates

Causes:

- Edema
 - Cardiogenic
 - Noncardiogenic
- Pneumonia
- LSA
- Pneumonitis
- Hemorrhage, Contusions
- Volume loss (atelectasis)
- PTE- Pulmonary Thromboembolism
- PIE- Pulmonary Infiltrates w/ eosinophelia
- Etc...

Pulmonary Infiltrates

Mainly alveolar and interstitial patterns

Atelectasis vs. Consolidation

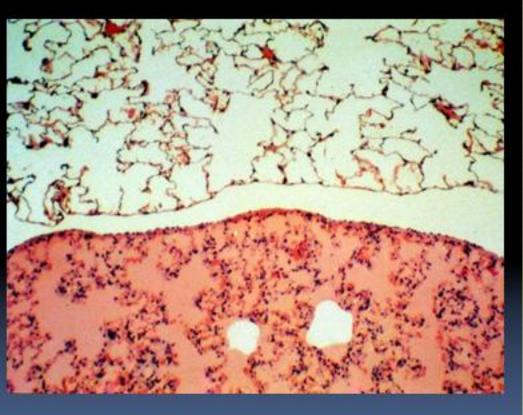
Location

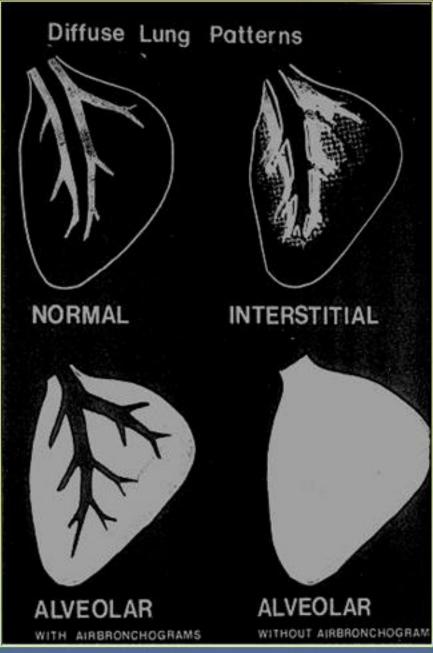
- Cranioventral v. Caudodorsal
- Focal v. Diffuse
- Bilateral v. Unilateral

Alveolar

- Air bronchograms
- Cannot visualize vessels adjacent the bronchus
- Lobar sign
 - Sharp demarcation between normal and abnormal lung lobes

Alveolar

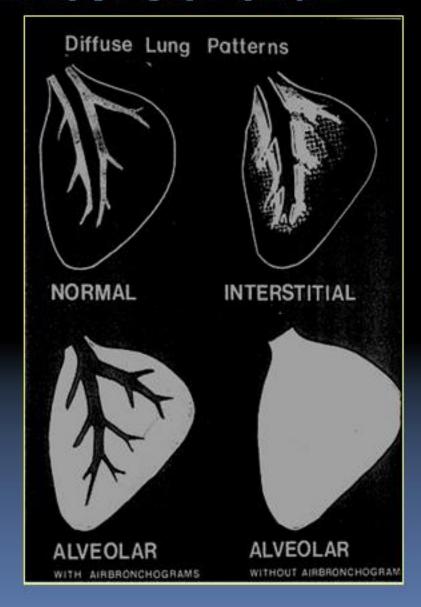




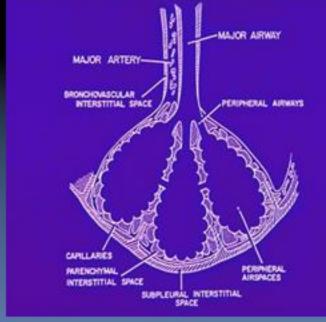
Alveolar

- Atelectasis
 - Loss of gas volume
- Consolidation
 - Replace air with soft tissue opaque material
 - Blood
 - Pus
 - Water
 - Neoplasia

Interstitial







Interstitial



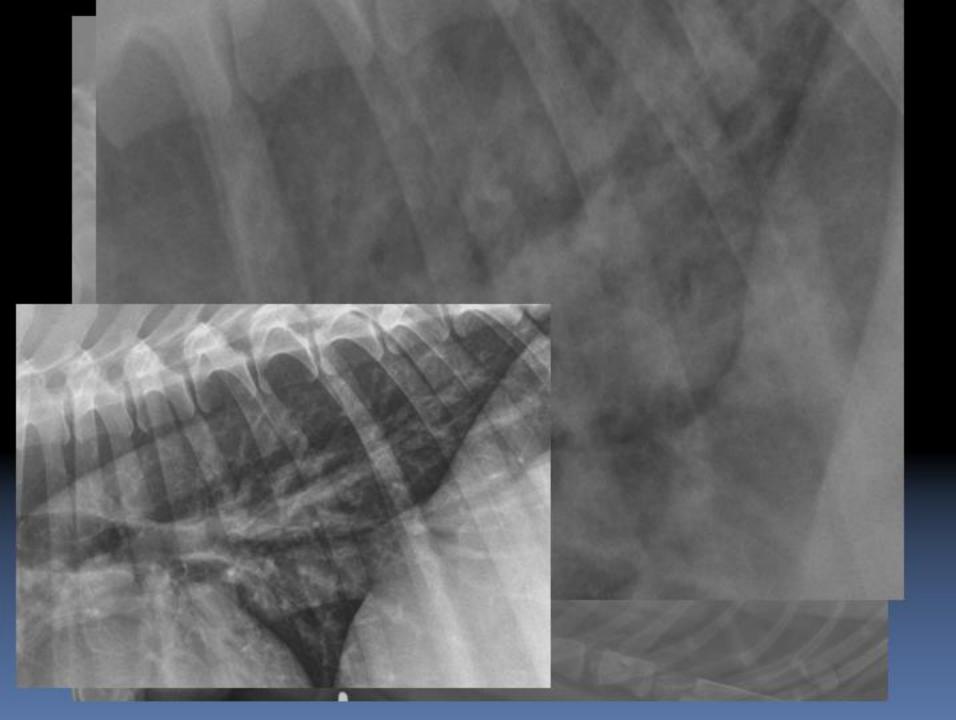
9:1) Consolidation (7.8:1)

Atelectasis = decrease volume



Interstitial

- Increased opacity
- Vessels are "hazy"
 - Still visible but not well demarcated
- Most over read pulmonary pattern
 - Underexposed
 - Obese
 - Expiratory



Radiographic Real Estate (location, location, location, location)

Cranioventral

- Pneumonia
- Hemorrhage, Contusions
- Torsion
- Neoplasia/Fungal

Caudodorsal/Perihilar

- Cardiogenic edema
- Noncardiogenic edema
- Viral/Hemotogenous Pneumonia
- Inflammation, vasculitis, PIE, etc...
- Neoplasia/Fungal

Cranioventral Infiltrates





Cranioventral Infiltrates

Pneumonia

- Bronchopneumonia
- Aspiration pneumonia
- Hemorrhage/Contusions
- Torsion (left cranial, right middle)
- Neoplasia/Fungal

Exceptions for cranioventral cardiogenic edema

- Canine Dilated Cardiomyopathy
- Feline Left-sided Heart Failure
 - Cats don't follow rules, even in heart failure



Lung Lobe Torsion

- Lobar Consolidation
- Vesicular Gas Pattern
- Sharply Tapered Bronchus
- Abnormal Location of Bronchus
- Pleural Effusion

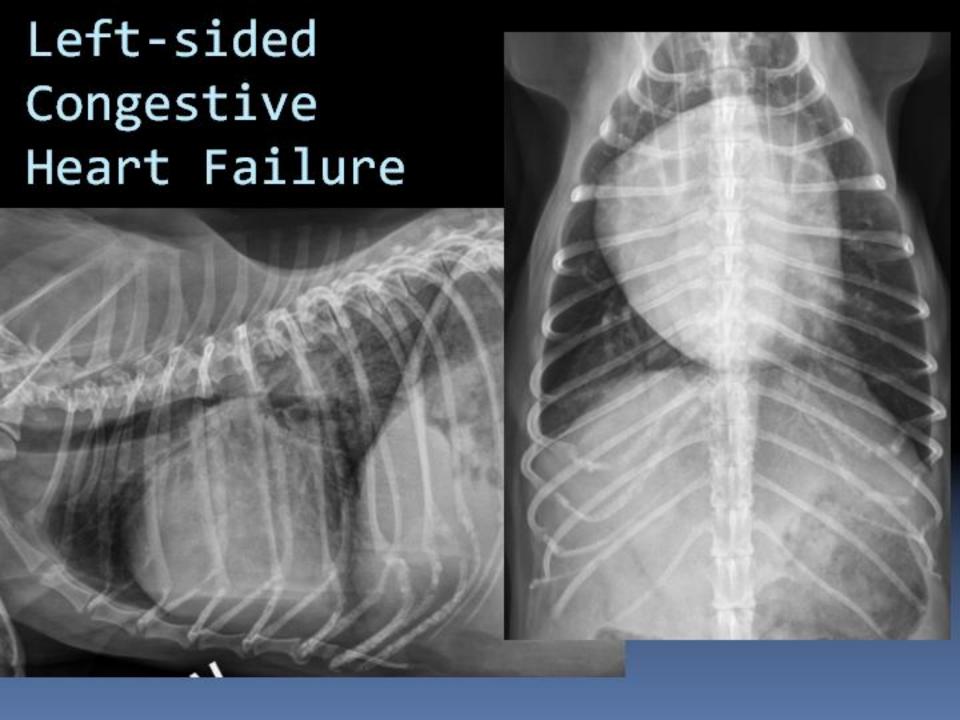




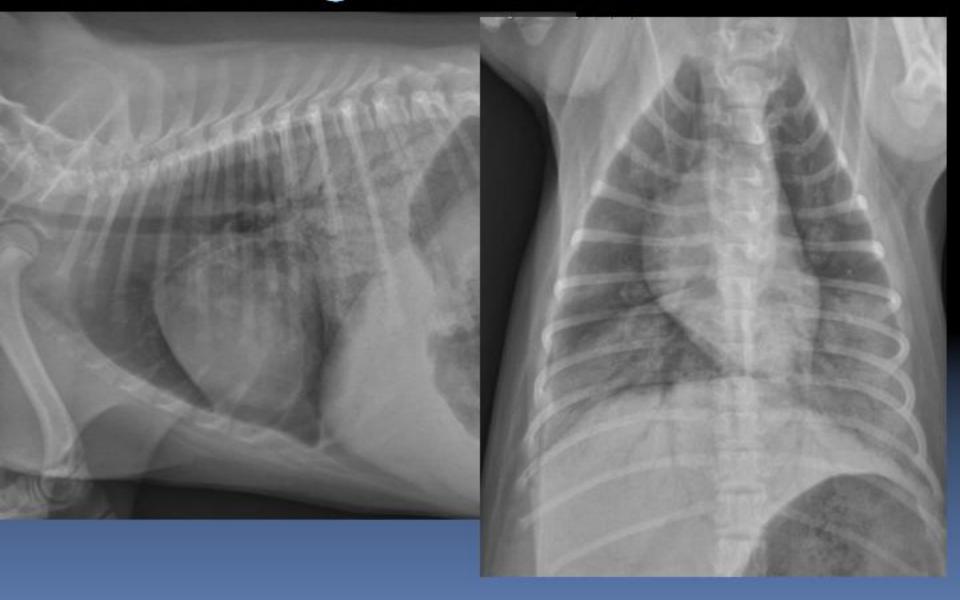


Caudodorsal Infiltrates

- Cardiogenic vs. Noncardiogenic
 - Heart size
 - Pulmonary venous congestion
 - Age
 - Clinical presentation



Noncardiogenic Edema



Noncardiogenic Edema

- Electrocution
- Post-Ictal
- Asphyxia (strangulation, near drowning)
- Smoke Inhalation
- Acute Lung injury (ALI)
 - Severe = Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome

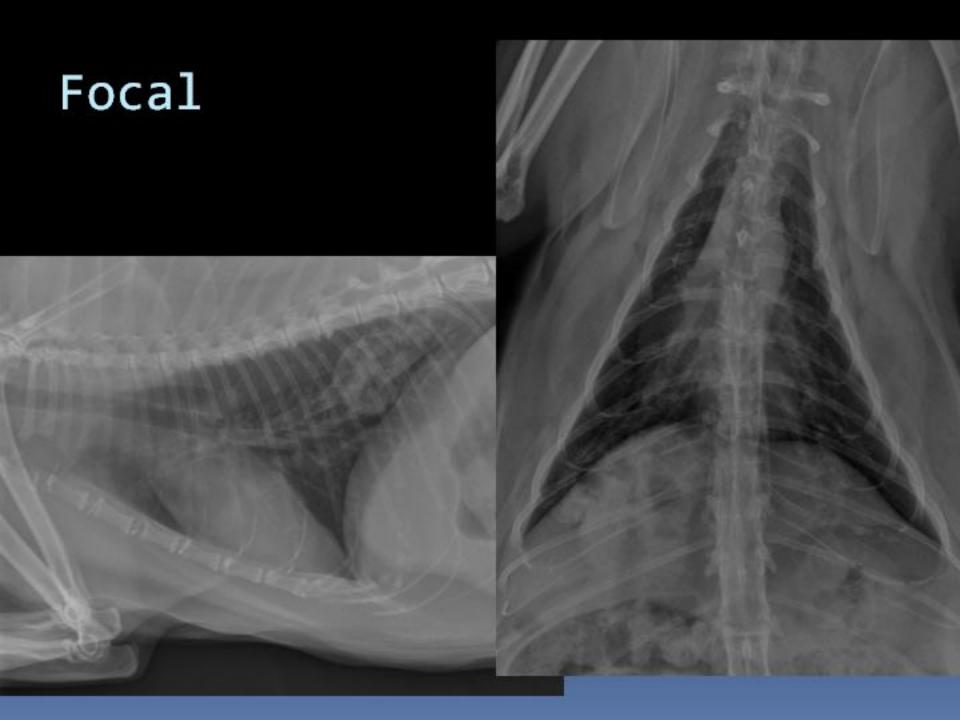




Adult cat in respiratory distress



Response to Lasix® THE PROPERTY



Focal Masses

- Primary dDX for solitary pulmonary mass is NEOPLASIA- especially in caudal lung lobes
- dDX
 - Neoplasia
 - Cyst
 - Hematoma
 - Abscess
 - Granuloma