

# IT'S YOUR CASE

Species: Canine Breed: Golden Retriever Sex: Male Neutered Age: 10 y

### **Clinical History:**

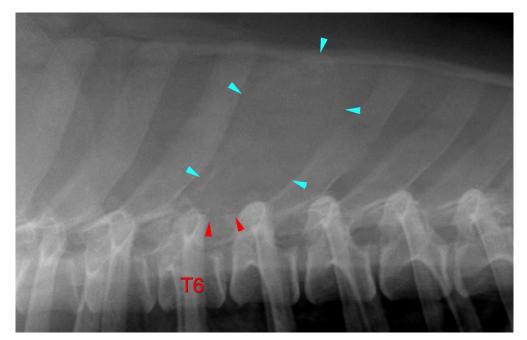
Chronic progressive hind limb ataxia

#### Details of study and technical comments:

A radiographic study of the thoracolumbar spine is available for interpretation. The study consists of lateral projections. No ventrodorsal views are available for interpretation.

#### **Diagnostic interpretation**:

The spinous process of the sixth thoracic vertebra is absent. There is also absence of the T6-T7 synovial joint facets and of part of the T6 lamina (image below, red arrows). A faint soft tissue opacity mass is seen on the area of where the T6 spinous process would be expected (image below, blue arrows).





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This report is based on the available history and radiographic interpretation only and not on a physical examination of the patient. It must therefore only be interpreted by a currently licensed and registered veterinary surgeon responsible for the care of this patient.

Ventral to the L3-L4, L6-L7 and the lumbosacral intervertebral discs there is smooth new bone formation. The new bone formation bridges these disc spaces.

The included abdominal and thoracic structures are normal.

## Conclusions:

- Aggressive monostotic bone lesion causing lysis of T6, with suspicion of vertebral canal invasion. Consistent with neoplasia. See comments
- Multifocal ventral spondylosis along lumbar spine. Most likely incidental.

## Additional comments:

The lesion has very aggressive features, causing extensive destruction of the affected vertebra. These aggressive features are compatible with neoplasia. Primary and metastatic tumours could cause these findings. Some specific differential diagnosis to consider would be a sarcoma (histiocytic, osteosarcoma, fibrosarcoma,...) or a round cell tumour such as plasmacytoma.

Cross sectional imaging could be considered to look into the extent of the lesion and to look for potential metastasis. CT or US guided biopsies using a dorsal approach could be considered to confirm the final diagnosis.



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