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# JUVENILE CELLULITIS WITH CONCURRENT SUPERFICIAL AND DEEP PYODERMA IN A PUPPY: A CASE REPORT

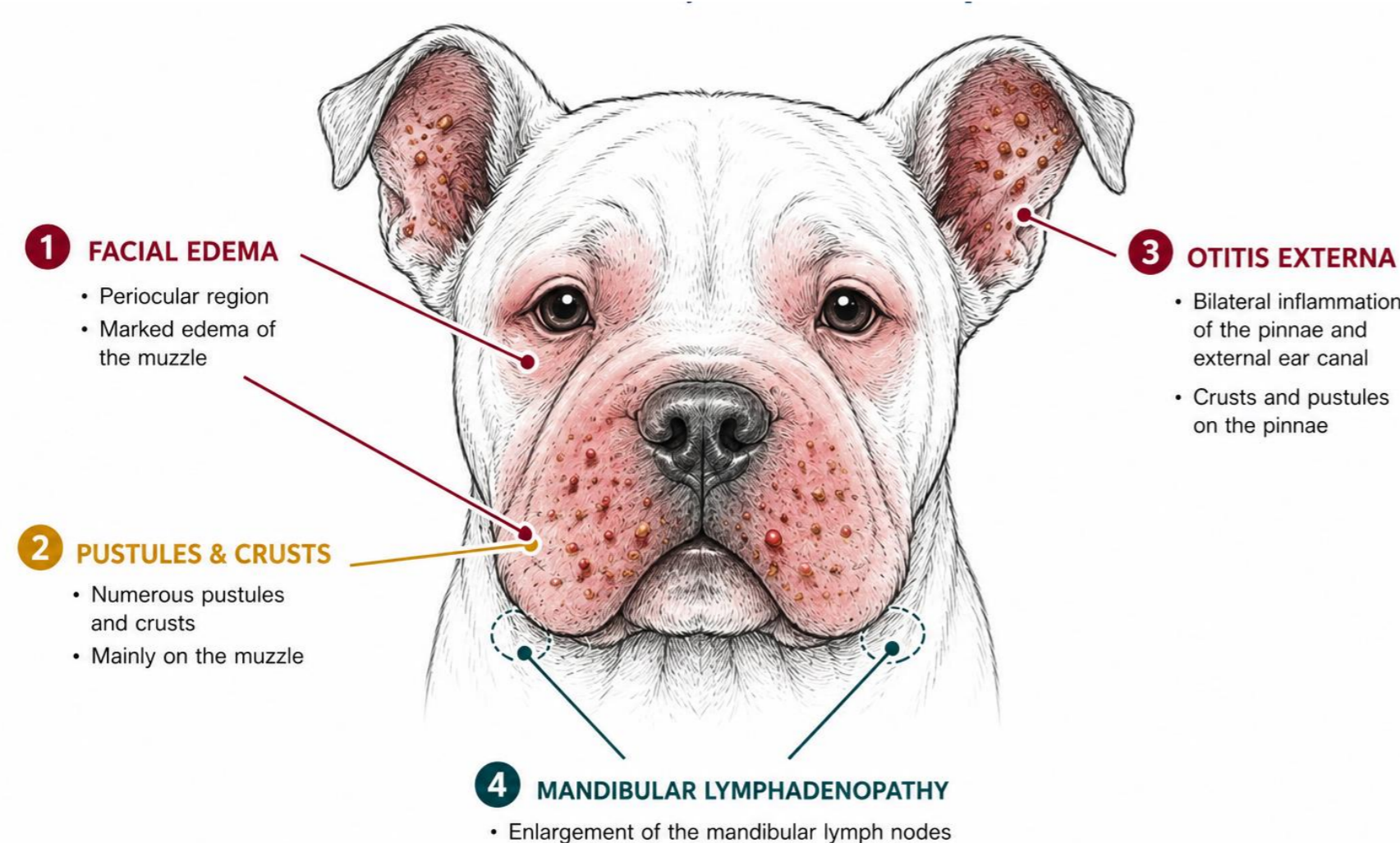
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**Abstract:** Juvenile cellulitis is a rare inflammatory skin disease of young dogs, characterized by acute facial swelling, pustular lesions, and lymphadenomegaly. This case report describes a two-month-old female Cane Corso puppy presenting with facial edema, pustules, nodules, crusts, and mild systemic signs. The condition was complicated by deep facial pyoderma, superficial abdominal pyoderma, and bilateral otitis externa. Diagnosis was based on clinical findings and cytological examination, which revealed marked neutrophilic inflammation and abundant coccoid bacteria, supporting the presence of secondary infection. Treatment consisted of systemic corticosteroids combined with antibiotic therapy, along with topical antiseptic and otic management. A rapid clinical improvement was observed, with complete resolution of lesions after four weeks of treatment. This case highlights the importance of early recognition of juvenile cellulitis and appropriate combined therapy, especially in the presence of secondary bacterial complications.

## Introduction

- Juvenile cellulitis is a rare immune-mediated dermatological disease affecting puppies between 3 weeks and 4 months of age.
- Clinical signs include facial edema, pustules, crusts, and mandibular lymphadenopathy.



- Systemic manifestations such as fever, lethargy, and anorexia may also occur.
- Secondary bacterial infections can complicate the disease and worsen the clinical presentation.
- Early diagnosis and prompt treatment are essential for achieving a favorable prognosis.

## Materials and methods

### Case description

- 2-month-old female Cane Corso puppy
- Presented to the Clinic of Parasitology and Dermatology, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Timisoara

### Diagnostic investigations

- General clinical examination
- Dermatological examination
- Deep skin scrapings
- Trichogram
- Cytological examination of skin lesions
- Otoscopic examination
- Cytological evaluation of ear exudate

### Diagnostic purpose

- Ruling out differential diagnoses such as demodicosis, dermatophytosis, sterile panniculitis, angioedema.
- Evaluation of inflammatory and bacterial components associated with the lesions.

## Results and discussion

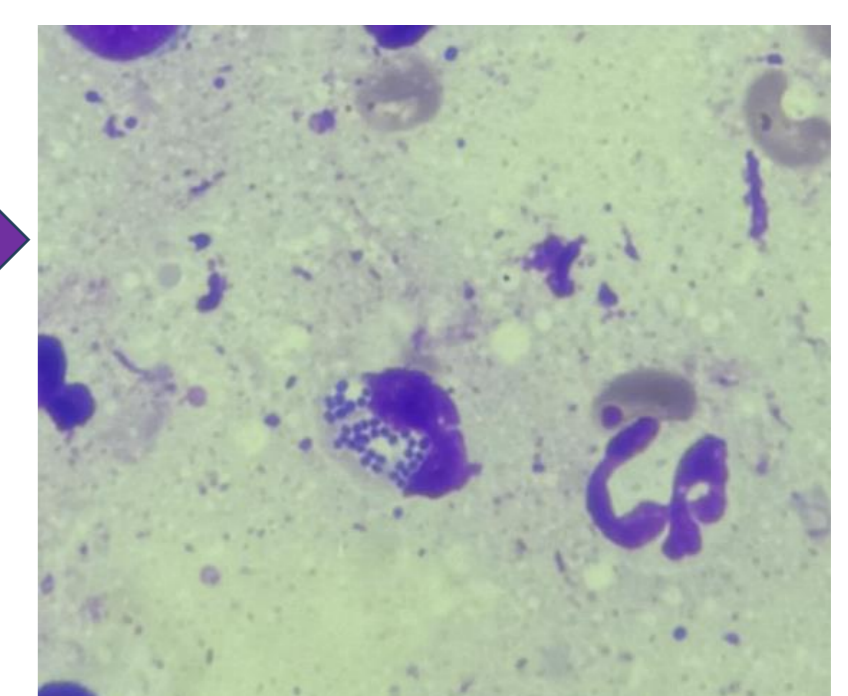
### Clinical findings

- Severe facial edema
- Mandibular lymphadenomegaly
- Pustules, crusts, and nodules mainly affecting the muzzle and pinnae
- Bilateral otitis externa
- Superficial abdominal pyoderma
- Mild systemic signs: fever, lethargy, and apathy



### Cytological findings

- Marked neutrophilic inflammation
- Abundant coccoid bacteria
- Secondary bacterial infection associated with superficial and deep pyoderma



### Treatment

- Prednisolone- 1 mg/kg PO SID
- Cephalexin- 25 mg/kg PO BID
- 3-4% chlorhexidine topical therapy
- Otic management

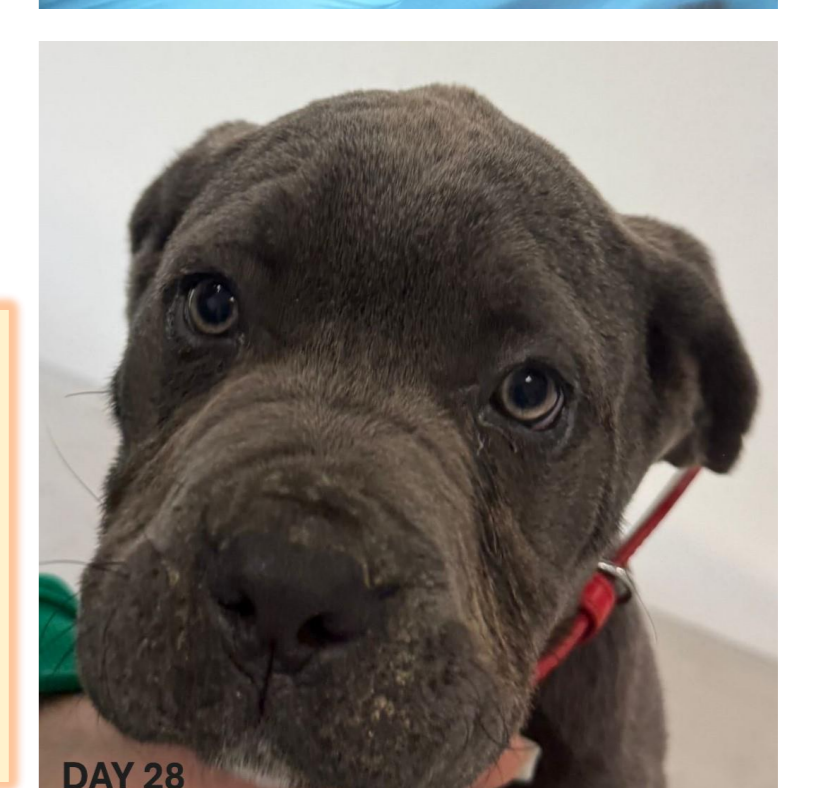
### Clinical evaluation

#### Day 14

Reduction of edema and inflammatory lesions  
 Decreased bacterial load

#### Day 28

Complete remission of lesions  
 Hair regrowth observed



### Clinical relevance

These findings highlight the importance of early diagnosis and combined immunosuppressive and antimicrobial therapy in juvenile cellulitis complicated by secondary bacterial infections.

**Conclusion:** Juvenile cellulitis should be considered in young puppies presenting with acute facial edema, pustules, crusts, and lymphadenomegaly. Cytological examination is essential for confirming secondary bacterial complications and guiding therapy. Early administration of corticosteroids associated with appropriate antimicrobial and topical treatment may lead to complete clinical remission and an excellent prognosis.