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5 Histological and Immunohistochemical Studies on Primary Intracranial Canine Histiocytic

6 Sarcomas

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24 Running head

25 INTRACRANIAL HISTIOCYTIC SARCOMA IN DOG

26 **ABSTRACT.**

27 Histiocytic sarcoma is a progressive and fatal malignant neoplasm that mainly occurs in
28 middle- to old-aged dogs. This study describes clinicopathological, histological and
29 immunohistochemical characteristics of intracranial histiocytic sarcomas in 23 dogs. Magnetic
30 resonance imaging and/or computed tomography of the brains revealed that the tumors mainly
31 located in the cerebrum, particularly the frontal lobe. Seizure was a predominant clinical sign
32 in most of the cases. Histologically, the tumor cells were morphologically classified into
33 round/polygonal- and spindle-shaped cell types. There was a significant association between
34 tumor cell types and hemophagocytic activity ($p<0.05$). However, there was no significant
35 difference in other clinicopathological parameters and mitotic index between the 2 types.
36 Immunohistochemically, tumor cells were strongly positive for HLA-DR, Iba-1 and CD204 in
37 all the 23 cases, for iNOS in 20, for CD163 in 17, for lysozyme and CD208 (DC-LAMP) in 9,
38 and for S100 in 5 cases. In addition, the Ki67-proliferative index showed range of 0.50 –
39 64.33% (Average $26.60 \pm 3.81\%$). These observations suggest that canine primary intracranial
40 histiocytic sarcomas tend to exhibit both dendritic cell and macrophage phenotypes of
41 histiocytic differentiation.

42

43 **KEY WORDS:** brain, dog, histiocytic sarcoma, immunohistochemistry

44 Histiocytic proliferative disorders (HPDs) are currently well documented in human and
45 various animal species, however, the etiology as well as pathogenesis is still unclear [1-3, 13,
46 15, 28]. In the dog, HPDs were first described in 1970s and recently classified into 3 major
47 types including reactive histiocytosis (cutaneous and systemic forms), cutaneous histiocytoma
48 and histiocytic sarcoma (localized and disseminated forms) depending upon clinical behaviors
49 and pathological features [6, 9, 19].

50 Canine histiocytic sarcoma (HS) included in HPDs, is a progressive and fatal malignant
51 neoplasm that is mainly documented in middle-age to older purebred dogs, predominantly in
52 the Bernese mountain dog, Retriever and Rottweiler [1, 6, 9, 19, 24]. Moreover, the Pembroke
53 Welsh Corgi, Shetland sheepdog and other purebreds are also described sporadically [2, 11,
54 29, 30, 33]. In general, the histiocytes are divided into 2 cell types: dendritic cells (DCs) and
55 macrophages. Most of the canine HS cases originate from DCs. Several cases arising from
56 macrophages, namely hemophagocytic HS, are very rare [21, 25]. In accordance with the
57 distribution pattern of tumor, the number of primary organ involved and the evidence of distant
58 metastasis, HSs are classified into localized and disseminated forms. The localized form is
59 recognized as a solitary mass that mainly manifests in the skin and subcutis of the extremities
60 with local invasion to sentinel lymph nodes. In the disseminated form, on the contrary, multiple
61 masses occur preferentially in the spleen, lung and bone marrow with a rapid and widespread
62 metastasis [2].

63 The incidence of HS with the central nervous system (CNS) involvement is very low
64 in both human and animals. In veterinary literatures, to our knowledge, there have been only
65 10 publications describing the occurrence of HS with CNS manifestation [5, 11, 12, 16, 26-30,
66 33]. Like the distribution pattern of HS in the extraneural tissues, both localized and
67 disseminated HSs are being observed in the CNS tissues. Ide *et al.* [11] mentioned that the
68 cellular morphologies of both localized and disseminated HSs in CNS were histologically

69 identical. Moreover, immunohistochemical expression patterns of those were not associated
70 with the tumor cell of origin. HS cases with the CNS involvement exhibited mainly histiocytic
71 markers, such as major histocompatibility complex class II (MHC II), lysozyme and CD18.
72 Currently, most of the histiocytic markers provided to confirm cellular origin of HS are only
73 available for frozen tissue samples. Furthermore, the cellular origin and histogenesis of HS in
74 the CNS are still unclear due to the low incidence. In the present study, therefore, we describe
75 clinicopathological, histological and immunohistochemical (IHC) characteristics of
76 intracranial histiocytic sarcomas in 23 dogs by using conventional diagnostic markers. In
77 addition, inducible nitric oxide synthase (iNOS) and dendritic cell-lysosomal associated
78 membrane protein (DC-LAMP or CD208) were employed as macrophage and dendritic cell
79 markers, respectively. The Ki67-proliferative index (PI) was also illustrated in all the samples.

80 **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

81 *Samples:* Formalin-fixed canine brain tumor samples including 20 tumor biopsies and
82 3 necropsies between 2009 and 2014 were pathologically examined at the Department of
83 Veterinary Pathology, Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the University of
84 Tokyo. All the cases were histologically diagnosed as HS. The signalment, neurological signs
85 and tumor location of the 23 dogs are summarized in Table 1.

86 *Histology:* Two to four- μ m thick paraffin tissue sections were stained with hematoxylin
87 and eosin (HE). The tumors were morphologically divided into 2 categories (round/polygonal
88 and spindle cell types) as described previously [6]. In the present study, conversely,
89 multinucleated giant cells were included in round/polygonal cell type. In order to determine
90 the mitotic index (MI), 10 highest densities of mitotic figure areas were randomly selected, and
91 then, the total number of mitoses was counted per 10 high power fields (hpf; 400X).

92 *Immunohistochemistry*: Primary antibodies used for immunohistochemistry (IHC) and
93 antigen retrieval methods are detailed in Table 2. In order to block non-specific reactions, all
94 tissue sections were immersed in 10% hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) in methanol at room
95 temperature for 5 min. and then incubated in 8% skim milk at 37⁰C for 30 min. All tissue
96 sections were applied with each primary antibody at 4⁰C overnight. The Envision⁺ system-HRP
97 labeled polymer reagent (DAKO, Tokyo, Japan) was then applied at 37⁰C for 40 min. For the
98 detection of CD208, tissue sections were applied with a biotinylated secondary antibody
99 (1:400, anti-rat IgG (H+L) antibody, KPL, Gaithersburg, MD, U.S.A.) at 37⁰C for 1 hr and
100 then incubated with streptavidin/HRP reagent (1:300, DAKO) at room temperature for 40 min.
101 All sections were rinsed with Tris-buffered saline (TBS) prior to treat with 3-3'-
102 diaminobenzidine solution containing 0.03% H₂O₂ and the counterstained with Mayer's
103 hematoxylin (Muto Pure Chemicals, Tokyo, Japan). Normal canine tissues were used as
104 positive controls, whereas negative controls were performed through applying with TBS
105 instead of the primary antibodies. Positive tumor cells were counted in randomly selected areas
106 (hpf; 400X). Semiquantitative scores included 4 categories as follows: - (Negative) = no
107 positive tumor cells; + (Weakly positive) = 1 – 25% positive tumor cells; ++ (Moderately
108 positive) = 26 – 50% positive tumor cells; +++ (Strongly positive) = >50% positive tumor cells.
109 In addition, the Ki67 expression was also determined by counting the number of nuclear
110 positive in the HS cells among total numbers of HS cells in 10 random hpf fields (400X). The
111 average percentage of those was defined as Ki67-PI.

112 *Statistical analyses:* Chi-square or Fisher's exact test was used to assess the association
113 between clinicopathological features together with hemophagocytic activity and necrosis, and
114 morphological difference of tumor cells, as appropriate. The percentage of Ki67-positive tumor
115 cells was demonstrated as range and mean \pm standard error of the mean (SEM). In addition,
116 Mann-Whitney U test was performed to determine the significance of difference of mean MI
117 and Ki67-PI between two cell types. Two-sided significant level was used that p-value <0.05
118 was considered statistically significant.

119 **RESULTS**

120 *Tumor occurrence:* Twenty three dogs examined were 14 males and 9 females with the
121 median age of 9 years (4 years to 14 years). Breeds were comprised of Pembroke Welsh Corgi
122 (n=11), Shetland sheepdog (n=3), Labrador retriever (n=2), Beagle (n=2), mixed breed (n=2),
123 Flat coated retriever (n=1), Miniature schnauzer (n=1) and Siberian husky (n=1). Various
124 neurological signs were recorded in 19 dogs, which included seizure (n=12), altered level of
125 consciousness (n=5), circling (n=5), abnormal basic vision test (n=4), gait abnormalities (n=4),
126 proprioceptive deficits (n=4), hemiplegia and paralysis (n=3), disorientation (n=2), head
127 pressing (n=2), head tilt (n=2), tremor (n=2), behavioral change (n=1) and somnolence (n=1).
128 Brain magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and/or computed tomography (CT) were also
129 performed in all the cases to detect tumor distribution. Most of the tumors (n=21) were
130 observed in the cerebrum, whereas two cases (Case Nos. 4 and 15) were in the cerebellum.
131 Complete postmortem examination was performed only in Case Nos. 4, 5 and 15 and as far as
132 examined in the 3 cases, tumor invasions to distant organs were not detected.

133 *Histological examination:* Microscopically, brain masses of all cases were poorly
134 demarcated and invading to the brain parenchyma. The tumor cells were classified into 2 types
135 in accordance with cellular morphology. The first type was defined by round- to pleomorphic-
136 shaped cells with eosinophilic cytoplasm and distinct border. Cytoplasmic vacuolation was
137 occasionally found. These cells had eccentric, round to ovoid nuclei with prominent nucleoli
138 (1 – 2 nucleoli/nucleus). Marked anisocytosis and anisokaryosis were noted with various
139 numbers of atypical mitoses. Multinucleated giant tumor cells were frequently found.
140 Hemophagocytic activity was commonly observed in almost all the cases of this type (Fig. 1
141 and Table 3). The second type was defined by spindle- and fusiform-shaped cells with indistinct
142 border. These cells arranged in irregular pattern. Their nuclei were ovoid to spindle shaped and
143 concentrically located. The nucleoli were obscure. Mild anisocytosis and anisokaryosis, and

144 atypical mitoses were noted (Fig. 2). Hemophagocytosis was seen in only one dog (Case No.
145 23). In both tumor types, moderated to marked infiltration of small lymphocytes was notably
146 observed surrounding small-sized blood vessels and scattering throughout the neoplastic
147 lesions. Moderate necrosis was occasionally found. Moreover, we found statistically
148 significant associations between tumor cell types and hemophagocytic activity ($p<0.05$).
149 However, there were no significant differences in other clinicopathological parameters (age,
150 sex and necrosis) and MI between the two cell types (Table 4). Based on histological results,
151 the diagnoses of HS were made in all the cases.

152 *Immunohistochemistry:* Intense cell membrane and/or cytoplasmic immunoreactivities
153 to HLA-DR, Iba-1 and CD204 were observed in all 23 tumors (100.00%). Strong, diffuse
154 cytoplasmic staining for iNOS was detected in 20 cases (86.96%). Tumor cells in 17 cases
155 (73.91%) were positive for CD163 with strong membrane staining. Nine tumors (39.13%)
156 exhibited focal to diffuse cytoplasmic staining for lysozyme and CD208. Variable or weak
157 cytoplasmic S100 immunoreaction was noted in 5 cases (21.74%) (Fig. 3 and Table 3). Ki67-
158 PI of HS with CNS involvement ranged 0.50 – 64.33% (average $26.60 \pm 3.81\%$). However,
159 there was no significant difference in Ki67-PI between round/polygonal and spindle cell types.

160 **DISCUSSION**

161 Despite canine histiocytic sarcoma has been well documented over the past several
162 years, there have been only 10 publications demonstrating the occurrence of HS in the CNS.
163 In the present study, HS in the brain was frequently found in Pembroke Welsh Corgis, which
164 is consistent with the results of previous studies [11, 16, 29]. Seizure is the major neurological
165 sign of the cases of HS in the brain, while other clinical signs were found sporadically. A
166 variety of the clinical signs might be associated with the affected areas of the brain. Based on
167 clinical histories and diagnostic imaging results, the tumor invasion and metastasis to other
168 distant organs were not detected, supporting that the brains are the primary site of HS in all the
169 present 23 cases. Furthermore, in accordance with tumor distribution, only the localized pattern
170 was observed in all the present cases, supporting that localized HS might be main form of
171 intracranial HS in dog as described previously [5, 11, 29, 33].

172 Tumor cells were infiltrated to brain parenchyma in all cases. The term of primary
173 intracranial canine HS, therefore, applies to the present study. McMEnamin, *et al.* [18]
174 demonstrated that antigen presenting cells were commonly found in the meninges and choroid
175 plexus of normal rat brains and that the cells have similar immunophenotype and ultrastructural
176 characteristics to DC. In accordance with the results of the present study, we postulate that the
177 cellular origin of canine HS in the brain is possibly resident DC in either the meninges or
178 choroid plexus.

179 The lesions of canine HS in the brain can be histologically classified into 2 types
180 (round/polygonal and spindle cell types) like those in the spleen and extremities described
181 previously [6]. Interestingly, the present results showed hemophagocytic activity of
182 round/polygonal cell type was significantly higher than that of spindle cell type, suggesting
183 that the biological behaviors of round/polygonal-shaped cell type are probably more aggressive
184 than another. However, there were no significant differences in sex, age, the presence of

185 necrosis, Ki67-PI and in the expression of immunohistochemical markers of tumor cells (data
186 not shown) between the 2 types. These results support that the difference of tumor cell
187 morphology cannot be used as histological predictive parameter for primary intracranial HS in
188 dog, unlike HS cases of extraneural tissues [6].

189 Lysozyme is widely used as histiocytic marker in both human and animal to substantiate
190 a diagnosis of histiocytic disorders. In human histiocytic disorders, the tumors that originated
191 from macrophage lineage exhibited high expression of lysozyme, whereas those arose from
192 DC had low expression or devoid of this molecule [4, 10, 17, 20, 31]. In the present study,
193 intense lysozyme-immunoreactivity was observed in 8 dogs, supporting that these tumors had
194 macrophage phenotype. On the other hands, S100 and CD208 are used as a marker for human
195 DCs. The S100 molecule is specifically expressed by DC lineage except for follicular DCs,
196 whereas the latter is exclusively expressed by human mature DCs and closely associated with
197 DC differentiation and maturation [7, 23]. In the present study, S100 and CD208
198 immunoreactivities were observed in 5 and 9 tumors, respectively, supporting that these tumors
199 had DC phenotype. HLA-DR, Iba-1 and CD204 immunoreactivity was detected in all 23 cases,
200 confirming that the tumors originated from histiocytes [9, 14, 22]. In 20 cases, iNOS was
201 detected, and CD163 in 17 cases; as the two molecules are widely used as M1 and M2
202 macrophage markers, respectively [8, 32]. The results showed that 15 cases of primary
203 intracranial HS showed both iNOS⁺ and CD163⁺ (15/23), suggesting that the HS cells of the
204 brain belong to the M1 and M2 macrophage phenotypes. However, some of intracranial HS
205 cases (7/23) exhibited either M1 or M2 macrophage phenotype and one case was negative for
206 both macrophage and DC markers. These observations suggest that variable
207 immunophenotypic features might be associated with the differentiation stage of the tumor
208 cells.

209 Primary HS of the CNS is an aggressive malignant neoplasm, which has a worse
210 prognosis. This tumor is the leading cause of cancer-related death in both human, and animal.
211 In accordance with all the present results, we can conclude that canine HS in the brain may in
212 part possess the features of both macrophage and DC. However, M1 and M2 types are relatively
213 predominant compared to the DC phenotype. This phenomenon was also found in HS cases of
214 extraneural tissues, but was an uncommon event [19]. Therefore, a number of samples
215 including fresh/frozen primary brain tumor tissues and further *in vitro* studies are required in
216 order to further verify cellular origins of canine HS arising in the CNS.

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312 **Table 1** Information of 23 primary intracranial canine histiocytic sarcomas

Tumor cell morphology	No.	Breed	Age ^a	Sex ^b	Neurological sign ^c	Tumor localization ^d	Sample collection
<i>Round/polygonal cell type</i>	1	Pembroke Welsh Corgi	11Y	FX	Gait abnormalities, depression, worsening respiratory status	Cerebrum (temporal lobe)	Biopsy
	2	Pembroke Welsh Corgi	11Y5M	F	Right hemiplegia, seizure	Cerebrum (left frontal to parietal lobe)	Biopsy
	3	Pembroke Welsh Corgi	7Y2M	M	Seizure, subconscious, circling, aimless pacing, somnolence, torticollis, left eye vision loss	Cerebrum (right temporal to occipital lobe)	Biopsy
	4	Pembroke Welsh Corgi	5Y2M	FX	Gait abnormality, lateral recumbence	Cerebrum (right temporal lobe) and cerebellum	Necropsy
	5	Pembroke Welsh Corgi	10Y	FX	n/d	n/d	Necropsy
	6	Pembroke Welsh Corgi	12Y	F	n/d	Cerebrum (right temporal lobe)	Biopsy
	7	Labrador retriever	8Y	M	Seizure, progressive depress	Cerebrum (left frontal lobe)	Biopsy
	8	Labrador retriever	8Y6M	M	Seizure, circling, head pressing, proprioceptive deficit, head tilt, slow blink reflex	Cerebrum (right occipital lobe)	Biopsy
	9	Mixed breed	9Y	F	Circling, proprioceptive deficit, head pressing, right eye vision loss	Cerebrum (left parietal lobe)	Biopsy
	10	Mixed breed	4Y	MX	Anorexia, negative blink reflex, mydriasis	Cerebrum (frontal lobe)	Biopsy
	11	Shetland sheepdog	9Y	M	Behavioral change (aggressive), Gait abnormality (wobble)	Cerebrum (frontal lobe)	Biopsy
	12	Shetland sheepdog	11Y11M	FX	Circling, walking difficulty	Cerebrum (occipital lobe)	Biopsy
	13	Beagle	14Y	MX	Seizure	Cerebrum (base of brain to olfactory bulb)	Biopsy
	14	Flat coated retriever	12Y	M	Seizure, confusion, subconscious, lateral recumbence	Cerebrum (right temporal and occipital lobe)	Biopsy
	15	Siberian husky	11Y	FX	n/d	Cerebellum	Necropsy
<i>Spindle cell type</i>	16	Pembroke Welsh Corgi	11Y5M	MX	Seizure, stupor	Cerebrum (fornix)	Biopsy
	17	Pembroke Welsh Corgi	9Y	MX	Seizure, paralysis, tremor, proprioceptive deficit, inactivity	Cerebrum (right frontal lobe)	Biopsy
	18	Pembroke Welsh Corgi	8Y	FX	Proprioceptive deficit	Cerebrum (right frontal and temporal lobe)	Biopsy
	19	Pembroke Welsh Corgi	8Y	M	n/d	Cerebrum (right frontal lobe)	Biopsy
	20	Pembroke Welsh Corgi	9Y9M	M	Seizure, drooling, tremor	Cerebrum (left temporal lobe)	Biopsy
	21	Beagle	10Y11M	M	Seizure, paralysis, circling	Cerebrum (left frontal lobe)	Biopsy
	22	Miniature schnauzer	4Y	M	Seizure, progressive depress	Cerebrum (left temporal lobe)	Biopsy
	23	Shetland sheepdog	11Y	M	Seizure	Cerebrum	Biopsy

313

314 ^a Y = Year (s); M = Month (s), ^b M = Male; F = Female; X = Sterilization, ^c n/d = No data

315 ^d Tumor locations were confirmed by magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and/or computed tomography (CT); n/d = No data

316 **Table 2** Primary antibodies used in immunohistochemical examination

Antibody	Type ^a	Dilution ^b	Antigen retrieval for IHC ^c	Expression	Source
HLA-DR	mAb, (TAL.1B5)	1:50	HIER (Citrate buffer, pH 6.0), 121°C, 10 min	Antigen presenting cells	Santa Cruz, CA, USA
Iba-1	pAb	1:250	HIER (Citrate buffer, pH 6.0), 121°C, 10 min	Microglia, macrophage	Wako, Osaka, Japan
CD204	mAb, (SRA-E5)	1:100	HIER (Tris/EDTA buffer, pH 9.0), 121°C, 10 min	Monocyte, macrophage	TransGenic, Kobe, Japan
CD163	mAb, (AM-3K)	1:100	HIER (Citrate buffer, pH 2.0), 121°C, 10 min	Histiocyte	TransGenic, Kobe, Japan
iNOS	pAb	1:200	HIER (Citrate buffer, pH 6.0), 121°C, 10 min	Macrophage	Abcam, Tokyo, Japan
Lysozyme	pAb	1:1000	PIER (Proteinase K), room temperature, 30 min	Monocyte, macrophage	Dako, Tokyo, Japan
S100	pAb	1:1000	HIER (Citrate buffer, pH 6.0), 121°C, 10 min	Dendritic cell	Dako, Tokyo, Japan
CD208 (DC-LAMP)	mAb, (1010E1.01)	1:100	HIER (Citrate buffer, pH 6.0), 121°C, 10 min	Dendritic cell	Dendritics, Lyon, France
Ki67	mAb, (MIB-1)	RTU	HIER (Citrate buffer, pH 6.0), 121°C, 10 min	-	Dako, Tokyo, Japan

317

318 ^a pAb = Polyclonal antibody; mAb = Monoclonal antibody

319 ^b RTU = Ready-to-use

320 ^c IHC = Immunohistochemistry, HIER = Heat-induced epitope retrieval; PIER = Proteolytic-induced epitope retrieval

321 **Table 3** Histological and immunohistochemical features of primary intracranial canine histiocytic sarcomas

No.	Breed	Tumor cell morphology ^a	MI ^b	Hemophagocytosis ^c	Necrosis ^d	IHC results ^e								
						HLA-DR	Iba-1	CD204	CD163	iNOS	Lysozyme	S100	CD208	Ki67 (%)
1	Pembroke Welsh Corgi	Round/polygonal cell type	4	+	-	+++	+++	+++	-	+++	-	-	+++	30.08
2	Pembroke Welsh Corgi	Round/polygonal cell type	33	-	+	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+	+++	53.29
3	Pembroke Welsh Corgi	Round/polygonal cell type	56	+	+	+++	+++	+++	++	+++	+++	+	-	26.00
4	Pembroke Welsh Corgi	Round/polygonal cell type	22	+	+	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	-	-	29.52
5	Pembroke Welsh Corgi	Round/polygonal cell type	8	+	-	+++	+++	+++	++	+	+++	-	-	3.00
6	Pembroke Welsh Corgi	Round/polygonal cell type	32	-	+	+++	+++	++	+++	+++	+++	-	+	64.33
7	Labrador retriever	Round/polygonal cell type	39	+	-	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	-	++	32.86
8	Labrador retriever	Round/polygonal cell type	37	-	+	+++	+++	+++	++	+++	-	+	-	15.68
9	Mixed breed	Round/polygonal cell type	70	+	+	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	-	-	-	49.05
10	Mixed breed	Round/polygonal cell type	44	-	+	+++	+++	+++	-	+	-	-	-	5.67
11	Shetland sheepdog	Round/polygonal cell type	24	+	-	+++	+++	+++	-	+	-	-	+	38.41
12	Shetland sheepdog	Round/polygonal cell type	62	+	-	+++	+++	++	++	-	-	-	-	6.50
13	Beagle	Round/polygonal cell type	4	+	+	+++	+++	+++	+++	-	-	+	++	0.50
14	Flat coated retriever	Round/polygonal cell type	39	+	-	+++	+++	+++	++	+	-	-	-	40.75
15	Siberian Husky	Round/polygonal cell type	0	+	+	+++	+++	+++	-	+++	+++	-	++	2.00
16	Pembroke Welsh Corgi	Spindle cell type	58	-	+	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	-	-	23.37
17	Pembroke Welsh Corgi	Spindle cell type	26	-	-	+++	+++	+++	+++	++	-	-	-	32.99
18	Pembroke Welsh Corgi	Spindle cell type	11	-	+	+++	+++	+++	-	-	-	-	-	42.38
19	Pembroke Welsh Corgi	Spindle cell type	10	-	+	+++	+++	+++	+++	+	-	-	-	18.88
20	Pembroke Welsh Corgi	Spindle cell type	44	-	+	+++	+++	+++	+++	++	-	-	-	48.82
21	Beagle	Spindle cell type	7	-	-	+++	+++	+++	++	+	-	-	++	26.68
22	Miniature schnauzer	Spindle cell type	6	-	+	+++	+++	+++	+++	+	-	-	++	18.35
23	Shetland sheepdog	Spindle cell type	12	+	+	+++	+++	+++	-	++	-	+	-	2.75
Total						23	23	23	17	20	8	5	9	

322

323 ^a Round/polygonal cell type = > 50% of tumor cell population are neoplastic histiocytes and multinucleated giant cells; Spindle cell type = > 50% of tumor cell population are spindle-shaped cells

324 ^b Mitotic index = Number of mitotic figures per 10 high power fields

325 ^c Hemophagocytosis score: + = Hemophagocytosis is present; - = Hemophagocytosis is absent,

326 ^d Necrosis score: + = Necrotic area is observed; - = No necrotic area is observed

327 ^e Immunohistochemical scoring: - (Negative) = Negative tumor cells; + (Weakly positive) = 1 – 25% positive tumor cells;

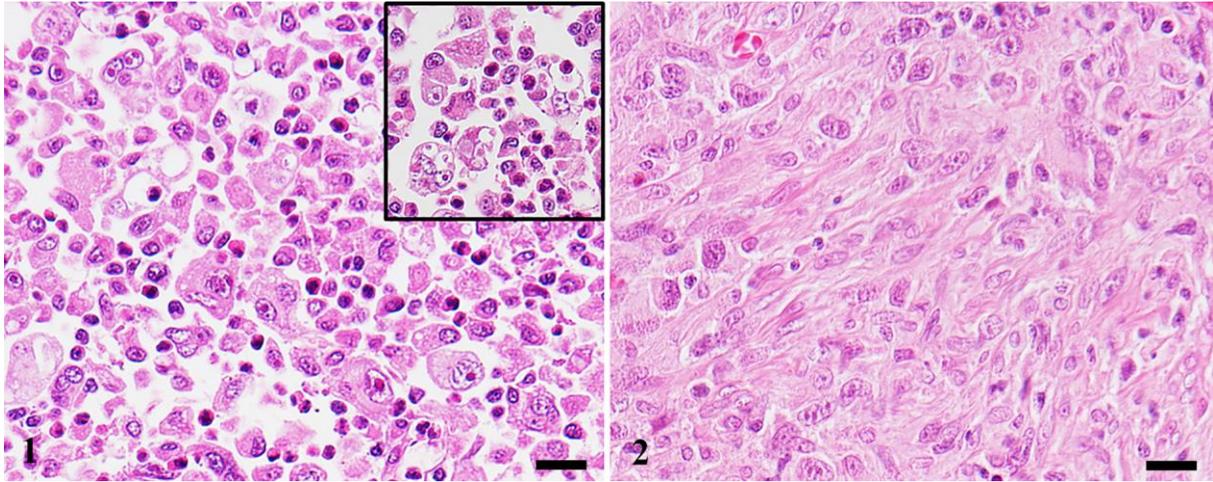
328 ++ (Moderately positive) = 26 – 50% positive tumor cells; +++ (Strongly positive) = > 50% positive tumor cells

329 **Table 4** The association between clinicopathological characteristics and cellular morphology
 330 of primary intracranial canine histiocytic sarcoma

Variable ^a	Round/polygonal cell type (n=15)	Spindle cell type (n=8)	<i>p</i> -value ^b
Sex			
<i>Male</i>	7	7	0.086
<i>Female</i>	8	1	
Age range			
< 3 years	0	0	1.000
≥ 3 year, < 6 years	2	13	
≥ 6 years	1	7	
Tumor location			
<i>Cerebrum</i>	13	8	0.558
<i>Cerebellum</i>	1	0	
<i>n/d</i>	1	0	
Hemophagocytosis (Presence)	11	1	0.009 ^b
Necrosis (Presence)	10	6	1.000

331 ^a n/d = No data

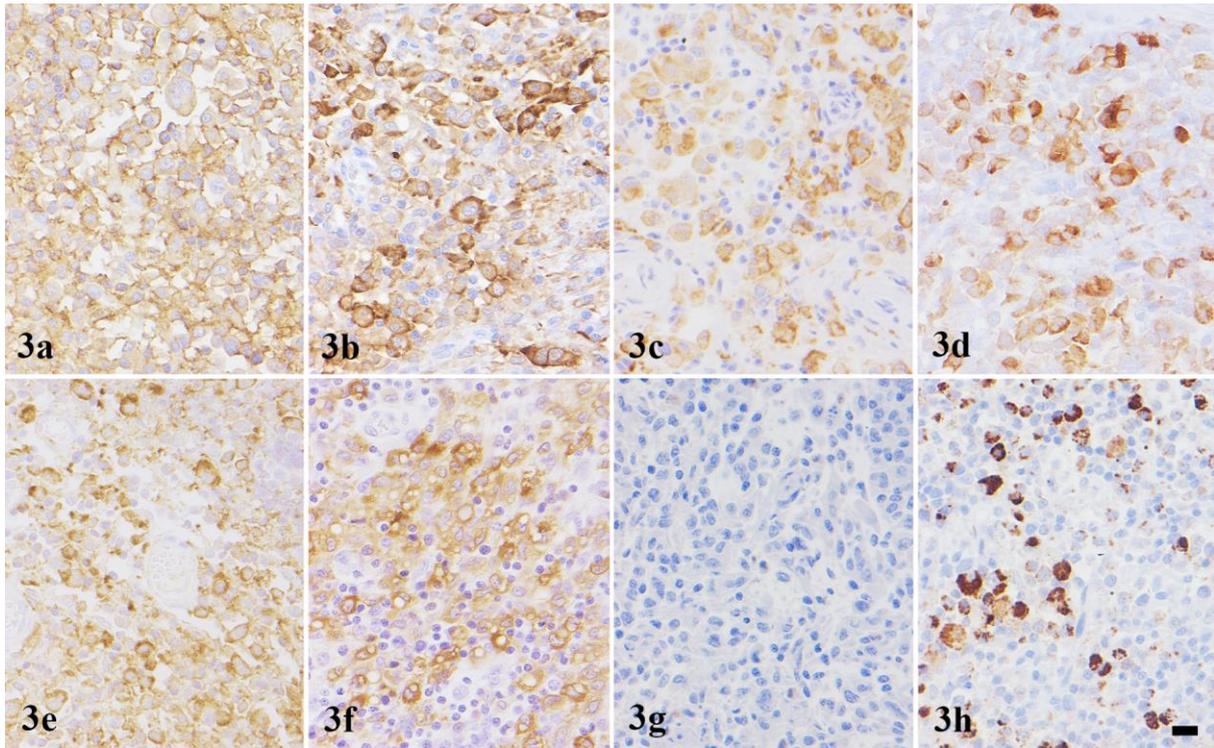
332 ^b *p* < 0.05



333

334 **Fig. 1.** Cerebellum. Dog. Case No. 4. Histiocytic sarcoma. Numerous polygonal to
335 pleomorphic shaped neoplastic histiocytes proliferate in the brain parenchyma.
336 Hemophagocytosis is commonly seen (inset). HE. Scale bar = 20 μ m.

337 **Fig. 2.** Cerebrum. Dog. Case No. 20. Histiocytic sarcoma. Most of the tumor cells are spindle-
338 shaped. HE. Scale bar = 20 μ m.



339 **Fig. 3.** Histiocytic sarcoma. Cerebrum; Dog. Case No. 6. Neoplastic histiocytes are positive
340 for (a) HLA-DR, (b) Iba-1, (c) CD204, (d) CD163, (e) iNOS, (f) lysozyme and (h) CD208, but
341 negative for (g) S100. IHC. Hematoxylin counterstain. Scale bar = 10 μ m.