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Rebecca E. Ruby, David M. Wong, Wendy Ware, Mark R. Ackermann

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1 A Case Report

2 **Myocardial Fibrosis and Ventricular Tachyarrhythmia in a Thoroughbred Filly**

3 **Rebecca E. Ruby[†], David M. Wong^{**}, Wendy Ware[†], Mark R. Ackermann[‡]**

4 [†]Departments of Veterinary Clinical Sciences and [‡]Veterinary Pathology, College of Veterinary Medicine, Iowa State
5 University, Ames, IA 50011, USA

6 **Keywords:** Tachycardia, Myocarditis, Foal, Cardiopulmonary arrest, Troponin

7
8 **Abstract**

9 A 16-month old Thoroughbred filly was evaluated for lethargy, tachycardia, tachypnea and signs
10 suggestive of colic. Rapid ventricular tachycardia with a heart rate of 210 beats/min was identified on
11 initial physical examination. Multiple doses of lidocaine transiently restored sinus rhythm.
12 Echocardiography revealed several foci of variably increased echogenicity within the left ventricular
13 myocardium, including an area of marked transmural hyperechogenicity and endocardial depression
14 suspected to be chronic scar tissue of the left ventricular free wall. Serum cardiac troponin I (cTnI)
15 concentration was markedly elevated. Because of the recurrent ventricular tachyarrhythmia and
16 echocardiographic findings, the filly was euthanized. Post-mortem examination demonstrated
17 multifocal, acute myocardial necrosis and an area of chronic myocardial fibrosis in the left ventricular
18 free wall. The exact cause of the myocardial lesions remains undetermined; however, the chronic
19 fibrosis is suspected to have resulted from myocardial injury or infarction associated with
20 cardiopulmonary cerebral resuscitation (CPCR) when the filly was 5 days old.

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