



SARCOCYSTIS IN THE NORTHERN FUR SEAL

Authors: BROWN, RICHARD J., SMITH, ALVIN W., and KEYES, MARK C.

Source: Journal of Wildlife Diseases, 10(1) : 53

Published By: Wildlife Disease Association

URL: <https://doi.org/10.7589/0090-3558-10.1.53>

BioOne Complete (complete.BioOne.org) is a full-text database of 200 subscribed and open-access titles in the biological, ecological, and environmental sciences published by nonprofit societies, associations, museums, institutions, and presses.

Your use of this PDF, the BioOne Complete website, and all posted and associated content indicates your acceptance of BioOne's Terms of Use, available at www.bioone.org/terms-of-use.

Usage of BioOne Complete content is strictly limited to personal, educational, and non - commercial use. Commercial inquiries or rights and permissions requests should be directed to the individual publisher as copyright holder.

BioOne sees sustainable scholarly publishing as an inherently collaborative enterprise connecting authors, nonprofit publishers, academic institutions, research libraries, and research funders in the common goal of maximizing access to critical research.

SARCOCYSTIS IN THE NORTHERN FUR SEAL

RICHARD J. BROWN,^[1] ALVIN W. SMITH^[2] and MARK C. KEYES^[3]

A special investigation of the diseases of the northern fur seal, *Callorhinus ursinus*, was conducted by the Naval Biological Research Laboratory in cooperation with National Marine Fisheries Service in the summer of 1972.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Using standard histological techniques numerous sarcosporidial cysts were found in the masseter muscle of one adolescent male fur seal among a group of 30 pups and two adults surveyed on

St. Paul Island in the Pribilof Islands, Alaska.

The diaphragm and abdominal muscles of the same animal did not reveal any additional cysts. These cysts closely resembled the sarcosporidia seen in other animals. There was no tissue reaction around the intact cysts and no ruptured cysts were identified.

Sarcosystis has been recorded occasionally in man² and is ubiquitous in domestic and wild animals.¹ The authors are unaware of any previously reported cases of *Sarcocystis* in marine mammals.

LITERATURE CITED

1. LEVINE, N. D. 1960. Protozoan Parasites of Domestic Animals and Man. University of Ill. Press, Urbana, Ill. p. 317-325.
2. MCGILL, R. J. 1956. Sarcosporidiosis in Man with Periarthritis Nodosa. Br. Med. J. 333-334.

Opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force or the U.S. Dept. of Commerce.

[1] Dr. Brown is a Major in the Air Force Veterinary Corps and is Head, Comparative Pathology Branch, Naval Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory, Pensacola, Florida 32512.

[2] Dr. Smith is a Lt. Colonel in the Air Force Veterinary Corps and is Chief, Research Animal Division, Navy Biomedical Research, Oakland, California.

[3] Dr. Keyes is a Research Veterinarian, Marine Mammal Division, National Marine Fisheries Services, Seattle, Washington 98115.

Received for publication 25 July 1973