

Why I'm here:
Floating, holding flippers in an unusual position

Patient : Pierce
Species : Green
Latin Name: *Chelonia mydas*
Age : Juvenile
Gender : Unknown
Weight : 4.7 kg/10.34 lbs
Found : Little Cumberland
Island, GA
Arrived : July 12, 2013
Rescued by : GADNR



Exam Findings:

Floating at caudal end
Large barnacles on carapace
Healed injury on rear carapace
Mass on dorsal neck (abscess)
Not using rear flippers in water and holding them in a fixed position clenched together (though has deep pain response)
Enlarged and stiff knee joints.

Diagnostic Workup:

Blood work: mild anemia, low blood protein, calcium, and glucose, elevated sodium and uric acid indicating dehydration

Radiographs (x-rays): knee joint space is decreased.
No other obvious findings

CT scan: knee joints decreased, possible decrease in spinal canal size potentially causing compression.



TREATMENT FOR:

Pierce

(MAY BE PREVIOUS OR CURRENT)

IV fluids for dehydration, including multi-B vitamins

Ceftazidime (injectable antibiotic aerobic bacteria)

Metronidazole (antibiotic for anaerobic bacterial infections)

Physical therapy

Clean and flush and debride abscess area on neck

PRESCRIBED: DR. NORTON, DVM

Update:

Unfortunately Pierce is going to be a permanent captive animal. We are currently in the process of looking for a home for this turtle so he/she can be used as an ambassador of the species.



Current Weight: