

KEY LEARNING POINTS

MALFORMATIONS AND DEGENERATION OF THE LIVER

METABOLISM

The materials provided (lecture notes, annotated lecture images and practical Question and Answer sheets) should allow you to answer the following questions.

- What are the main types of congenital cystic lesions observed in the livers of domestic animals? What is their clinical significance?
- What is a **congenital portosystemic shunt**? In which species are such shunts commonly diagnosed? Where is the likely location for a congenital shunt in a cat or a small breed of dog? Where is the likely location in a large breed of dog and why?
- What conditions predispose to diffuse hepatic atrophy?
- What conditions predispose to atrophy of a portion of the liver?
- What are causes of **hydropic degeneration** of hepatocytes?
- What is meant by the term **steroid hepatopathy**? In which domestic animal species is steroid hepatopathy observed and in what circumstances?
- Briefly explain the pathogenesis of **hepatic lipidosis**.
- What gross features would make you suspect that moderate to severe lipidosis of the liver is present?
- Provide some examples of conditions in domestic animals that are typically associated with hepatic lipidosis.
- What is **amyloid**? In what circumstances does hepatic amyloidosis develop in domestic animals? What is the prognosis for animals with hepatic amyloidosis?
- What are the various pigments that can grossly discolour the liver? In what circumstances do these pigments accumulate?
- What might cause caudal displacement of the liver?
- What is a common cause of cranial displacement of the liver?
- What can happen to a twisted liver lobe or a herniated lobe that is strangled by the hernia ring?
- What are possible causes of rupture of the liver? What can liver rupture lead to?