“Consumption in cats: the eye has it”
Badger cull underway in the UK in an attempt to control the spread of bovine TB
Wildlife reservoirs for bovine TB

- White-tailed deer
- Brushtail possum
- Wild boar
- African buffalo
Brief clinical summary

- Five DSH cats
  - Three males and two females
    - Two 2-year-olds
    - Two 4-year-olds
    - One 10-year old
- Presented for unilateral uveitis
  - No other clinical signs except one cat also had a subcuticular mass
Ziehl-Neelson
Diagnosis

- Granulomatous endophthalmitis with intralesional acid-fast bacteria typical of *Mycobacteria* spp.
FIP
One cat also had a subcutaneous mass....
Granulomatous panniculitis and lymphangiitis

- PCR to detect *M. tuberculosis* complex:
  - positive on the skin mass
  - negative on the ocular tissue
Clinical outcome post-enucleation

- Cat 1: still alive after 8 months
- Cat 2: still alive after 7 months
- Cat 3:
  - chest radiographs indicated miliary interstitial pneumonia
  - triple treatment with rifampicin, clarithromycin and pradofloxacin
  - doing well after 8 months
- Cat 4:
  - treated with marbofloxacin
  - clinically well after 12 months
- Cat 5: PTS
Mycobacterial disease in cats UK

- **Tuberculosis**
  - *M. bovis, M. microti & M. tuberculosis (rare)*

- **Leprosy**
  - *M. leprae*merium

- **Non-tuberculous mycobacteria (NTM)**
  - *M. avium (MAC complex)*
  - *M. fortuitum, M. smegmatis*...
Mycobacterial disease in cats UK

- Most cases in cats are cutaneous
- Systemic involvement (10-16%)
  - *M. microti* (19%)
  - *M. bovis* (15%)
  - *M. avium* (7%)
  - Non-avium, non-tuberculous (1%)
  - No growth (53%)
Possible routes of infection

- Hunting small rodents infected with *M. bovis* or *M. microti*
- Interspecies aggression with badgers
- Environmental contamination with *M. bovis* by badgers
Distribution of feline TB in the UK

*M.bovis*

*M.microti*

Work published by DA Gunn-Moore et al
Thank you….

La Miseria by Cristóbal Rojas (1886).