

**Abstract*****Arsenicum album* as a treatment for pneumonia in snakes: three serial cases****Jessica Amâncio Martins<sup>1</sup>; Melina Castilho de Souza Balbueno<sup>1,2</sup>; Cidéli de Paula Coelho <sup>\*1,2</sup>**

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**Introduction:** two *Python bivittatus* snakes were received at Project Selva Viva, a zoo in Taubaté, Brazil, both presenting respiratory noises and oro-nasal discharge. A thoracic ultrasonographic examination was performed for evaluation on February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022, which diagnosed the presence of multiple vertical hyperechoic artifacts emerging from the pleural line, coalescing in some of the examined areas, and the presence a hypoechoic structure located in the subpleural region. Another serpent, from the *Boa constrictor* species, was apprehended and arrived at the same zoo without medical history, showing a low body score. During a thoracic ultrasonographic evaluation realized on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, B lines emerging from the pleural line were found. These vertical reverberating lines are a result of respiratory illness (SOLDATI et al., 2014). **Methodology:** The report was authorized by the owner of the zoo. All the patients received homeopathic therapy with 2 globules of *Arsenicum album* 30 cH/ BID into the mouth, after being diagnosed with the respiratory condition by the ultrasonographic examination. The medication was chosen according to the similarity with the symptoms. The snakes had a runny nose and hissing breathing noise. Weekly ultrasound scans were performed on the *Python bivittatus* snakes to follow up on the respiratory condition. Results: On March 04<sup>th</sup>, it was observed that both snakes showed a reduction in respiratory noises and were more active. *Ars* 30 cH was maintained BID. On March 25<sup>th</sup>, both presented significant improvement in the ultrasound images, which showed only A lines, compatible with a healthy lung, and the treatment was suspended. *Boa constrictor* snake's treatment started on April 1<sup>st</sup>. On April 8<sup>th</sup>, the ultrasonographic examination performed only presented A lines, which are characterized in ultrasound by parallel horizontal lines in the near field with the loss of image continuity in the far field, indicating improvement of the condition (LICHTENSTEIN et al., 2003). **Conclusion:** Given these results, the homeopathic treatment is an option to be considered for the treatment of respiratory symptoms in snakes, although the duration of the therapy varies based on the stage and chronicity of the disease.

**Keywords:** *Boa constrictor*; Homeopathy; *Python bivittatus*.**References**

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