China takes ‘project of the century’ to Pakistan

By Henry Sender and Kiran Stacey, Karachi

The signs in the lobby of the Pearl Continental Hotel in Lahore could hardly be more gushing. “Long live Pak-China Friendship,” they read, advertising a conference to promote the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. The banners add: “Our friend is higher than the Himalayas and deeper than the deepest sea in the world, and sweeter than honey.”

That high, deep and sweet friendship is also worth a lot of money. The CPEC scheme, which will link western China to the Arabian Sea by sea and rail and set up special economic zones where companies can enjoy tax breaks and other business incentives, is Beijing’s pet project of Xi Jinping, its president, who described the ambitious “One Belt, One Road” project as “creating a modern Silk Road corridor. The banners add: “Our friend is higher than the Himalayas and deeper than the deepest sea in the world, and sweeter than honey.”

But Pakistan’s policymakers also hope the relationship — Beijing last month provided more than $1 billion in loans to help Islamabad stave off a currency crisis — will insulate it from the possibility that China will sell us cheap goods because we can’t compete. “But China is the only game in town.”

Such concerns are an acknowledgment that Pakistan’s economy has struggled, not only when compared with neighbouring India but also against the likes of Bangladesh, which has built a large manufacturing base. Beijing is set to invest more than USD$55 billion in its neighbour, building power plants, roads and railways to give its infrastructure a much-needed upgrade as it seeks to emerge from years of political instability. Estimates from the Pakistan Business Council suggest the projects could account for 20 percent of the country’s GDP over the next five years and boost growth by about 3 percentage points.

But Pakistan’s policymakers also hope the relationship — Beijing last month provided more than $1 billion in loans to help Islamabad — will insulate it from the possibility that China will sell us cheap goods because we can’t compete. “But China is the only game in town.”

Such concerns are an acknowledgment that Pakistan’s economy has struggled, not only when compared with neighbouring India but also against the likes of Bangladesh, which has built a large manufacturing base. Beijing is set to invest more than USD$55 billion in its neighbour, building power plants, roads and railways to give its infrastructure a much-needed upgrade as it seeks to emerge from years of political instability. Estimates from the Pakistan Business Council suggest the projects could account for 20 percent of the country’s GDP over the next five years and boost growth by about 3 percentage points.

But Pakistan’s policymakers also hope the relationship — Beijing last month provided more than $1 billion in loans to help Islamabad stave off a currency crisis — will insulate it from the possibility that China will sell us cheap goods because we can’t compete. “But China is the only game in town.”

Such concerns are an acknowledgment that Pakistan’s economy has struggled, not only when compared with neighbouring India but also against the likes of Bangladesh, which has built a large manufacturing base. Beijing is set to invest more than USD$55 billion in its neighbour, building power plants, roads and railways to give its infrastructure a much-needed upgrade as it seeks to emerge from years of political instability. Estimates from the Pakistan Business Council suggest the projects could account for 20 percent of the country’s GDP over the next five years and boost growth by about 3 percentage points.

But Pakistan’s policymakers also hope the relationship — Beijing last month provided more than $1 billion in loans to help Islamabad stave off a currency crisis — will insulate it from the possibility that China will sell us cheap goods because we can’t compete. “But China is the only game in town.”

Such concerns are an acknowledgment that Pakistan’s economy has struggled, not only when compared with neighbouring India but also against the likes of Bangladesh, which has built a large manufacturing base. Beijing is set to invest more than USD$55 billion in its neighbour, building power plants, roads and railways to give its infrastructure a much-needed upgrade as it seeks to emerge from years of political instability. Estimates from the Pakistan Business Council suggest the projects could account for 20 percent of the country’s GDP over the next five years and boost growth by about 3 percentage points.

But Pakistan’s policymakers also hope the relationship — Beijing last month provided more than $1 billion in loans to help Islamabad stave off a currency crisis — will insulate it from the possibility that China will sell us cheap goods because we can’t compete. “But China is the only game in town.”

Such concerns are an acknowledgment that Pakistan’s economy has struggled, not only when compared with neighbouring India but also against the likes of Bangladesh, which has built a large manufacturing base. Beijing is set to invest more than USD$55 billion in its neighbour, building power plants, roads and railways to give its infrastructure a much-needed upgrade as it seeks to emerge from years of political instability. Estimates from the Pakistan Business Council suggest the projects could account for 20 percent of the country’s GDP over the next five years and boost growth by about 3 percentage points.

But Pakistan’s policymakers also hope the relationship — Beijing last month provided more than $1 billion in loans to help Islamabad stave off a currency crisis — will insulate it from the possibility that China will sell us cheap goods because we can’t compete. “But China is the only game in town.”

Such concerns are an acknowledgment that Pakistan’s economy has struggled, not only when compared with neighbouring India but also against the likes of Bangladesh, which has built a large manufacturing base. Beijing is set to invest more than USD$55 billion in its neighbour, building power plants, roads and railways to give its infrastructure a much-needed upgrade as it seeks to emerge from years of political instability. Estimates from the Pakistan Business Council suggest the projects could account for 20 percent of the country’s GDP over the next five years and boost growth by about 3 percentage points.

But Pakistan’s policymakers also hope the relationship — Beijing last month provided more than $1 billion in loans to help Islamabad stave off a currency crisis — will insulate it from the possibility that China will sell us cheap goods because we can’t compete. “But China is the only game in town.”

Such concerns are an acknowledgment that Pakistan’s economy has struggled, not only when compared with neighbouring India but also against the likes of Bangladesh, which has built a large manufacturing base. Beijing is set to invest more than USD$55 billion in its neighbour, building power plants, roads and railways to give its infrastructure a much-needed upgrade as it seeks to emerge from years of political instability. Estimates from the Pakistan Business Council suggest the projects could account for 20 percent of the country’s GDP over the next five years and boost growth by about 3 percentage points.

But Pakistan’s policymakers also hope the relationship — Beijing last month provided more than $1 billion in loans to help Islamabad stave off a currency crisis — will insulate it from the possibility that China will sell us cheap goods because we can’t compete. “But China is the only game in town.”

Such concerns are an acknowledgment that Pakistan’s economy has struggled, not only when compared with neighbouring India but also against the likes of Bangladesh, which has built a large manufacturing base. Beijing is set to invest more than USD$55 billion in its neighbour, building power plants, roads and railways to give its infrastructure a much-needed upgrade as it seeks to emerge from years of political instability. Estimates from the Pakistan Business Council suggest the projects could account for 20 percent of the country’s GDP over the next five years and boost growth by about 3 percentage points.

But Pakistan’s policymakers also hope the relationship — Beijing last month provided more than $1 billion in loans to help Islamabad stave off a currency crisis — will insulate it from the possibility that China will sell us cheap goods because we can’t compete. “But China is the only game in town.”

Such concerns are an acknowledgment that Pakistan’s economy has struggled, not only when compared with neighbouring India but also against the likes of Bangladesh, which has built a large manufacturing base. Beijing is set to invest more than USD$55 billion in its neighbour, building power plants, roads and railways to give its infrastructure a much-needed upgrade as it seeks to emerge from years of political instability. Estimates from the Pakistan Business Council suggest the projects could account for 20 percent of the country’s GDP over the next five years and boost growth by about 3 percentage points.

But Pakistan’s policymakers also hope the relationship — Beijing last month provided more than $1 billion in loans to help Islamabad stave off a currency crisis — will insulate it from the possibility that China will sell us cheap goods because we can’t compete. “But China is the only game in town.”

Such concerns are an acknowledgment that Pakistan’s economy has struggled, not only when compared with neighbouring India but also against the likes of Bangladesh, which has built a large manufacturing base. Beijing is set to invest more than USD$55 billion in its neighbour, building power plants, roads and railways to give its infrastructure a much-needed upgrade as it seeks to emerge from years of political instability. Estimates from the Pakistan Business Council suggest the projects could account for 20 percent of the country’s GDP over the next five years and boost growth by about 3 percentage points.

But Pakistan’s policymakers also hope the relationship — Beijing last month provided more than $1 billion in loans to help Islamabad stave off a currency crisis — will insulate it from the possibility that China will sell us cheap goods because we can’t compete. “But China is the only game in town.”

Such concerns are an acknowledgment that Pakistan’s economy has struggled, not only when compared with neighbouring India but also against the likes of Bangladesh, which has built a large manufacturing base. Beijing is set to invest more than USD$55 billion in its neighbour, building power plants, roads and railways to give its infrastructure a much-needed upgrade as it seeks to emerge from years of political instability. Estimates from the Pakistan Business Council suggest the projects could account for 20 percent of the country’s GDP over the next five years and boost growth by about 3 percentage points.

But Pakistan’s policymakers also hope the relationship — Beijing last month provided more than $1 billion in loans to help Islamabad stave off a currency crisis — will insulate it from the possibility that China will sell us cheap goods because we can’t compete. “But China is the only game in town.”

Such concerns are an acknowledgment that Pakistan’s economy has struggled, not only when compared with neighbouring India but also against the likes of Bangladesh, which has built a large manufacturing base. Beijing is set to invest more than USD$55 billion in its neighbour, building power plants, roads and railways to give its infrastructure a much-needed upgrade as it seeks to emerge from years of political instability. Estimates from the Pakistan Business Council suggest the projects could account for 20 percent of the country’s GDP over the next five years and boost growth by about 3 percentage points.

But Pakistan’s policymakers also hope the relationship — Beijing last month provided more than $1 billion in loans to help Islamabad stave off a currency crisis — will insulate it from the possibility that China will sell us cheap goods because we can’t compete. “But China is the only game in town.”

Such concerns are an acknowledgment that Pakistan’s economy has struggled, not only when compared with neighbouring India but also against the likes of Bangladesh, which has built a large manufacturing base. Beijing is set to invest more than USD$55 billion in its neighbour, building power plants, roads and railways to give its infrastructure a much-needed upgrade as it seeks to emerge from years of political instability. Estimates from the Pakistan Business Council suggest the projects could account for 20 percent of the country’s GDP over the next five years and boost growth by about 3 percentage points.

But Pakistan’s policymakers also hope the relationship — Beijing last month provided more than $1 billion in loans to help Islamabad stave off a currency crisis — will insulate it from the possibility that China will sell us cheap goods because we can’t compete. “But China is the only game in town.”

Such concerns are an acknowledgment that Pakistan’s economy has struggled, not only when compared with neighbouring India but also against the likes of Bangladesh, which has built a large manufacturing base. Beijing is set to invest more than USD$55 billion in its neighbour, building power plants, roads and railways to give its infrastructure a much-needed upgrade as it seeks to emerge from years of political instability. Estimates from the Pakistan Business Council suggest the projects could account for 20 percent of the country’s GDP over the next five years and boost growth by about 3 percentage points.
China takes ‘project of the century’ to Pakistan (continued)

favour Beijing, with Chinese companies winning Chinese contracts to build and finance infrastructure in Pakistan, in deals often guaranteed by Islamabad.

“The risk is that down the line China will call the shots and that we will pay the price later,” says Syed Murad Ali Shah, the chief minister of Sindh, the province in which Karachi is located. “It is up to us.”
The Chinese plan, revealed by Dawn newspaper to have been delivered in December 2015, has only added to those concerns. It talks about thousands of acres of agricultural land leased out to Chinese enterprises to develop seed varieties and irrigation technology. It would install a full system of monitoring and surveillance in cities from Peshaowar to Karachi, with 24-hour video recordings on roads. It would build a national network of fibre-optic cables to boost internet access.

Key to this is the XPCC. Under the plan the Han Chinese economic and paramilitary organisation is mandated to invest in Pakistan as a springboard for economic development around Kashgar, the heartland of 11 million Turkic-speaking Muslims known as Uighurs.

Ministers in Islamabad say the document contains proposals originally drawn up by Beijing, but will not say how far the draft agreements, which are still being negotiated, differ from it. Critics argue that Pakistan risks repeating the mistakes of the 2006 free-trade agreement with China which was settled on unfavourable terms for Islamabad. And opposition politicians have attacked the government for giving away too much to the Chinese.

Asad Umar, a member of the opposition Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party, says of the leaked Chinese proposals: “This is the kind of lack of seriousness which has resulted in Pakistan losing rather than gaining from all the free-trade agreements we have signed.”

Across the border in India, which is so concerned about China’s ambitions in Pakistan that it boycotted Mr Xi’s multinational conference in Beijing, the criticism has been even more damning. Swarajya, an Indian right-wing magazine, said the leaked document showed China intended “to reduce Pakistan to a vassal state”. New Delhi is worried both about Chinese encroachment into parts of Kashmir operated by Pakistan, which India regards as its own territory, and about the potential for China to station navy forces at Gwadar.

In an effort to reassure its neighbours, Nawaz Sharif, Pakistan’s prime minister, told the Beijing conference: “Let me make it very clear that CPEC is an economic undertaking open to all countries in the region. It has no geographical boundaries. It must not be politicised.”

For all the benefits that China offers, many have expressed concern about the deal and whether it might undermine Pakistan’s industry and sovereignty

Given the scale of the initiative, and Beijing’s soft power play, it is unlikely that the arguments will recede. According to Pakistan’s Overseas Investors Chamber of Commerce and Industry, CPEC power projects will provide backers with an average of about 20 percent return on equity. Ministers in Islamabad admit the returns might look high, but they point out that the guaranteed payments to power producers are lower than current prices, and that no one else was willing to finance the schemes.

“We wanted power investments, but nobody came in,” says Mr Iqbal, the planning minister. “The Chinese spotted an opportunity.”

Others question the opaque nature of some of the deals. Vagir Ahmad, deputy executive director at the Sustainable Development Policy Institute in Islamabad, says he tried to get the details of the memorandum of understandings and progress reports on specific projects, but was blocked by the government from doing so.

Some officials blame the opacity on provincial rivalry as local politicians spar to get more Chinese investment for their districts. But others attribute it to the fact that the Army is involved on both sides of the border although the extent of the military role remains unclear.

Whatever the concerns in Pakistan that Islamabad is ceding too much power to China, many in the business and political communities argue that the benefits from the infrastructure projects are well worth it.

“Pakistan requires money and money has no colour,” Kimihide Ando, head of Mitsubishi Corp in Pakistan, says.

Others argue that, following the problems with the free-trade agreement, Pakistan’s ministers will be more savvy this time. “The Chinese have taken us for a ride [before] but we have let them,” says Ehsan Malik, chief executive of the Pakistan Business Council. “Given we have made huge mistakes before, hopefully we will learn this time.”

Additional reporting by Lucy Hornby in Beijing

Syndicated articles from
© The Financial Times Limited 2017. All Rights Reserved. Not to be redistributed, copied or modified in any way.

© The Financial Times Limited 2016. All Rights Reserved. Not to be redistributed, copied or modified in any way.

China's far western region on a new international route exporting goods to the Middle East and Africa

A Pakistan Navy soldier stands guard while a loaded Chinese ship prepares to depart from Gwadar port that links to China's far western region on a new international route exporting goods to the Middle East and Africa.

© The Financial Times Limited 2017. All Rights Reserved. Not to be redistributed, copied or modified in any way.

Xinjiang firm securing resources

Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps, a unique relic of Maoist resettlement policies, is at the crux of Beijing’s plans to invest USD55 billion in agriculture, energy and infrastructure in Pakistan, according to plans leaked by the Dawn newspaper this week.

XPCC, known in Chinese as the bingtuan, was set up after the Korean war to move demobilised Chinese soldiers to the Central Asian frontier, where they would “settle the wilderness” and control ethnically distinct borderlands. Soon after, the settlements morphed into gullies for opponents and sent-down youth during the cultural revolution in the 1960s.

Dismantled after that tumultuous decade, XPCC was soon re-established as the fall of the Soviet Union and the large-scale exploitation of oil and gas reserves increased the energy and security importance of Xinjiang —literally, the “new frontier”.

Almost 70 years after its founding, XPCC controls much of the autonomous region’s water resources. It operates vast cotton, tomato and fruit plantations, and controls about a dozen listed companies. XPCC has adopted modern irrigation techniques in order to allocate more water to Xinjiang’s big new coal mines, but still relies heavily on subsidies for its cotton output. Seeds, cotton, yarn and irrigation technology are among the industries it will oversee in Pakistan, according to the proposals.

XPCC functions autonomously in Xinjiang, representing a population of about 2 million people almost all of whom are Han Chinese. Its more recent expanse into the heartlands of the ethnic Uighurs in the south of the region has been accompanied by unrest among the local population.

In 2013, XPCC leased vast tracts from privatised state farms in Ukraine, investing in irrigation to grow corn, sunflowers and pigs.

Additional reporting by Lucy Hornby in Beijing

Syndicated articles from
© The Financial Times Limited 2016. All Rights Reserved. Not to be redistributed, copied or modified in any way.
**Aussie woman whose Bali drug saga gripped nation going home**

By Kristen Gelineau, Sydney

She has riveted Australia for more than a decade, the everyday Aussie beach girl who somehow sparked diplomatic rows, furious protests and a media bonanza on par with America’s O.J. Simpson trial. She is so notorious Down Under that she needs no last name: She’s just Schapelle.

This week, after an exhaustively chronicled stint in a Balinese prison for smuggling marijuana to the Indonesian island, Schapelle Corby is expected to return to Australia. Her homecoming marks the climax of a tale that divided a nation. It also coincided with an era of cultural upheaval, tapping into a surge of nationalism and fear heightened by bombings in Bali that killed 88.

"Corby is an ordinary suburban Aussie, "one of her lawyers, Robin Tampoe, tells her Australian network will cut into their daytime programming to air the verdict live — something not done, he notes, since Princess Diana’s funeral. "Everybody’s watching," Tampoe assures his fellow broad-casters who would likely air the lengthy court buildup to the verdict itself. "Wow! Corby responds in almost giddy wonder. "Like Melbourne Cup day!" And, like Melbourne Cup day — Australia’s most prestigious horse race — everyone did seem to be watching. Two Australian networks alone drew 1.7 million viewers for the verdict, says Ross Turnbull, an expert in Indonesian media and culture at the Australian National University. Given Australia’s population at the time was just 20 million, it was an impressive audience.

Indian National University professor Anthony Lambert, who spent years studying Australia’s response to the case, once described Corby as “the daughter who is Australian.” And in some ways, she still is. "She functioned as a representation of what being Australian meant," says Lambert, a senior lecturer in cultural studies at Macquarie University. "In the beginning, [there was] that initial surge of emotion and kind of racist vitriol that was about the nation much more than it was about the actual case. [...] She still represents a relatively young, feminine version of being Australian and white Australian-ness, caught up in trouble."

The saga began in 2002, when a 27-year-old Corby set out from her home on Australia’s picturesque Gold Coast for a vacation in Bali. When she arrived, Indonesian customs agents found more than 4 kilograms of marijuana inside her boogie board bag. Corby insisted the drugs had been planted by corrupt baggage handlers; Balinese officials insisted she was lying. She was convicted of drug smuggling and sentenced to 20 years in prison. Her sentence was eventually reduced and in 2014, after 9 years behind bars, she was released on parole. She was not permitted to leave Bali until her sentence expires on May 27.

In the beginning, polls showed the vast majority of Australians believed Corby had been set up. Proving her innocence became a national cause, sparking “Free Schapelle” T-shirts and “Boycott Bali” banners. Her face took the place of celebrities on magazine covers. She even became an Australian slang phrase: to be “Schapelle’d.”

Many Australians saw themselves in Corby, Lambert says. With her Gold Coast upbringing, she was the quintessential surfer girl — easily identifiable in a beach-loving country where more than 80 percent of the population lives within 50 kilometers of the coast. She also embodied the classic image of an Aussie “battler,” a humble, working class hero. Her father was a retired coal miner, her mother owned a fish-and-chips shop. She was a high school dropout who later dropped out of beauty therapy school when her father was diagnosed with cancer and worked in her family’s shop.

Even her choice of vacation destination was relatable. Given Australia’s isolation, cross-country travel can be prohibitively expensive. Bali, just a 2 and 1/2-hour flight from the northern Australian city of Darwin, is the exception. For decades, it has been a favorite vacation spot for Australians, many of whom view it as an extension of their own country.

Corby was hardly beloved by all. Some dubbed her a bogan, theWorking class hero. Her homecoming marks the climax of a tale that divided a nation. But exactly why Corby’s saga gripped nation going home to Australia its place in the world and relationship to Asia, coming just two years after the Bali bombings carried out by Muslim militants. The attacks were Australia’s equivalent of Sept. 11, marking a loss of innocence and also an era of fear about the country’s proximity to conflict in Asia. Corby was seen, at least in the eyes of some, as a survivor of behind enemy lines,” Lambert says.

Over the years, unflattering reports about Corby’s family emer ged. And so, Australia braces for the verdict — a case that many Australians still believe was a setup. The whole saga is so beholden to Schapelle’s imprisonment, her release is expected to spark another frenzy.

"There is an element of fatigue and also endless curiosity about how this story ends," Rosewarne says. "Because we’ve invested so much, emotionally."

And so, Australia braces for the inevitable: the live viewing of Schapelle’s arrival, the speculation about her romantic life and career prospects, maybe even (as one German tabloid once put it) a stint on "Dancing With the Stars." And Australia, inevitably, will be watching.

"She’s not just coming home to the Gold Coast," Lambert says. "She’s coming home to the nation."
Oil company watches over pregnant polar bear under bridge

A polar bear and her young cub stand next to a causeway bridge leading to an artificial island oil production platform in the Beaufort Sea.

By Dan Joling, Anchorage

A pregnant polar bear seeking to dig her maternity den chose an unlikely spot: a snow drift along a bridge leading to an artificial production island off the north coast of Alaska. As a threatened species, polar bears are entitled to peaceful pregnancies and the operating oil company, Hilcorp Alaska LLC, took vigorous measures to make sure that happened. In consultation with federal wildlife authorities, Hilcorp restricted traffic on the causeway, monitored the den and kept things mostly quiet until mother and cub emerged three months later.

“The bear, wherever she decided to den, she’s the empha-sis,” said Christopher Putnam, a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service supervisory biologist. “Polar bears are listed as “threatened” under the Endangered Species Act because climate warming is melting their primary habitat, sea ice. Short of action that effectively addresses Arctic warming, it is unlikely that polar bears will be recovered, according to the Fish and Wildlife Service. Polar bears don’t hibernate, but pregnant females create maternity dens to shelter newborn cubs. If a nursing mother is disturbed, she can abandon a cub. Upward of 50 percent of cubs don’t survive their first year.

Oil companies working near known denning areas scout for bears using airplanes equipped with infrared cameras that detect bears in dens. “Typically they pick locations that are away from oil field infrastructure,” said Beth Sharp, Hilcorp’s habitat and wildlife specialist, who has worked on Alaska’s North Slope for nearly two decades.

A Hilcorp security officer in December spotted a hole in a snow drift along the 2.4 kilometer causeway leading to Endicott Island, a production island about the size of 34 football fields. The hole looked like a den entrance, but Sharp was skeptical. Workers borrowed an infrared camera from the company fire department to take a photo inside the snow drift. “There was a bear-shaped light bulb as clear as could be,” Sharp said.

Hilcorp and the Fish and Wildlife Service worked out a plan to minimize disturbance. Workers on their way to Endicott were shuttled by bus instead of individual pickups. Hilcorp parked a heavy-duty snow removal truck. Non-essential traffic stopped.

Advocacy group Polar Bear International and Brigham Young University, which are collaborating on a long-term denning study, monitored the den with a remote camera system.

Mother and cub stepped out of the den on March 18. They spent two weeks around the den, eventually marching off to sea ice to hunt for seals.

U.S. Geological Survey researchers say south Beaufort Sea polar bears increasingly use land for maternity dens as sea ice conditions change. That could mean more cases of polar bears giving birth near oil field infrastructure, Putnam said. “We don’t know if it’s a trend, but that’s why we have these plans,” Putnam said, AP.

AS Ask the Vet

Adenocarcinoma in Dogs

Adenocarcinoma in dogs is one of the most common types of cancer, being the most common primary cancer of the colon, kidney and rectum. An adenocarcinoma is a malignant growth of the glandular tissue cells most often originating from the uterus, anus, intestines or mammary glands (Mammary Tumours). Often they metastasize or spread to the lungs; 80 percent of all lung tumours are adenocarcinomas. They can also spread to the liver and other abdominal organs. This cancer can also originate in the perianal area: the sebaceous glands in males and the anal sacs or mammary glands in females.

Causes of Adenocarcinoma

Adenocarcinomas occur in the mammary glands of older non-spayed female dogs whereas the cancer appears in the perianal area of males, including the scrotum, prepuce and tailhead. Rarely does the cancer develop in the prostate, mammary tissues or anal sacs of males. Females with anal sac adenocarcinomas have a worse prognosis than males with the disease appearing elsewhere because cancer of the anal sac is more invasive, more aggressive, spreads quickly and results in a high calcium blood level leading to kidney damage. Males with adenomas (benign tumors) appearing in the perianal area can be resolved with castration. Though anal sac adenocarcinosis is a less common form of cancer than the mammary glandular form, it can quickly spread to the lymph nodes thereby affecting the entire body of the diseased dog.

Symptoms of Adenocarcinoma

Though swelling, pain and loss of appetite followed by weight loss is common to both mammary tumors and anal sac adenocarcinomas, there are some differences. Dogs with mammary tumors will exhibit:

- Weakness or fatigue
- Swelling in the hind legs
- Sudden appetite loss
- Sudden weight loss
- Painful, inflamed or ulcerated mammary skin
- One or several tumors forming a mass underneath the abdominal skin

Dogs with adenocarcinomas in the perianal region or anal sac will exhibit:

- Inflammation in the perianal region
- Excessive licking of the perianal region
- Loss of appetite
- Weight loss
- Constipation
- Discomfort in passing stools or eliminating ribbon-like stools
- Blood in the stools
- High blood calcium levels resulting in kidney failure

Dogs with adenocarcinomas occurring elsewhere in the body (kidney, lungs, liver, brain, bones, spleen, lymph nodes) may exhibit:

- Blood in the urine (kidney cancer)
- Increased frequency in urinating
- Increased thirst
- Abdominal distention
- Coughing or labored breathing indicating the cancer has spread to the lungs

Diagnosis and Treatment of Adenocarcinomas in Dogs

Adenocarcinomas cannot be cured; however, treatment can improve the quality of life for any dog diagnosed with the disease. A veterinarian will conduct a complete physical examination (palpation of the lymph nodes and a digital rectal exam), blood tests (blood count and serum chemistry), x-rays and or an ultrasound of the abdominal area and possibly a fine-needle aspirate biopsy, which does not require surgery. Mammary tumors and anal sac adenocarcinomas usually require the surgical removal of the tumors followed by chemotherapy or radiation. If the kidneys are affected, then treatment of the high calcium levels to promote kidney function would be recommended. Depending upon how early the cancer was detected and how far it has spread determines the prognosis of the disease.

Hope this info helps
Till next week
Dr Ruan