

AN UNUSUALLY DELAYED CASE OF PRE CERVICAL RIGHT UTERINE TORSION IN A NON-DESCRIPTIVE BUFFALO

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Abstract

A non descriptive buffalo in its second parity and in advanced gestation presented with the history of recurrent bloat, scanty faeces, straining during defaecation and urination since one month. Animal showed a stiff, stilted gait and per vaginal and per rectal exploration revealed the left broad ligament crossing over the top of the twisted portion of the birth canal which confirmed right sided pre-cervical uterine torsion. Rolling of the animal was unsuccessful and animal succumbed to death after two days.

Keywords : *Dystocia, Gestation, Maceration, Modified Schaffers method*

1. INTRODUCTION

Uterine torsion is the rotation of a pregnant uterus on its longitudinal axis, which leads to narrowing of the birth canal, causing dystocia. It is categorized into left or right torsion according to the direction of rotation; mild, moderate or severe on the basis of degree and pre cervical of post cervical in term of position (Amer et al., 2008). Buffaloes are thought to be more susceptible to uterine torsion than many other domestic animals due to their uterine instability resulting from the broad ligament attachments. But the occurrence of uterine torsion before seventh month of gestation in cows and buffaloes is unusual (Roberts, 1986). Occurrence of pre cervical torsion is rare compared to post-cervical torsion and is always accompanied with incomplete cervical dilatation due to severe ischemia of cervical tissue as compared to post-cervical torsion (Honparkhe et al. 2009). The present case deals with a delayed case of pre cervical uterine torsion in last trimester of gestation in a non-descript buffalo.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. Case History and Observation

An advanced pregnant non-descriptive buffalo was presented to Department of Veterinary Clinical Complex, College of Veterinary Science, Proddatur with the history of recurrent bloat, scanty faeces, straining during defaecation and urination since past one month and was treated by local veterinarian with NSAIDs, multivitamin supplements, fluids and laxatives. The general clinical examination of the animal revealed dull and depressed buffalo with reluctance to move, tightened pelvic ligaments with loss of teat tumefaction. The rectal temperature was 103.2 °F with elevated pulse and respiratory rates. The vaginal vault was constricted and dried, however with

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slender arm, protruded and twisted cervix can be palpated. Per rectal examination revealed left broad ligament stretched to right side, confirming pre cervical uterine torsion.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1.Treatment

The animal was casted on its right side and rolling was done by modified Schaffer's method, however no improvement was observed in degree of rotation. Inj. DNS 1000ml, inj. Ringers Lactate 1000ml and inj. Dexamethasone 15ml administered intravenously. Keeping in view of complexity of the case, abdominocentesis was performed to obtain a dark, fetid foetal fluids indicating uterine rupture and dead foetus. The owner was advised for culling of animal however, death of the animal was reported on the same day.

Post mortem examination findings: A macerated foetus and peritoneal cavity filled with fetal fluids and pale discolouration of abdominal organs of dam was observed.

4.DISCUSSION

Rolling is one of the simple method to relieve torsion in cows and buffaloes. If attempted early the success of relieving reported (Jyothi et al, 2014) but in delayed cases decreased blood supply to the uterus, loss of elasticity, necrosis and rupture of uterus with poor prognosis is indicated (Noakes et al 2001). Unrelieved uterine torsion will progress to placental separation, fetal death, putrefaction, adhesions of uterus to adjacent abdominal organs and fatal maternal toxemia (Noakes et al 2009) as it happened in the present case. Brijesh kumar et al reported a protracted case of pre cervical torsion. The process in which a foetus dies after ossification within the uterus and undergoes microbial digestion in the fluids of uterus till only the mass of bones remains is known as maceration (Kumar, 2009). There will develop persistent low grade abdominal pain, progressive anorexia and constipation in such cases. Because, the fetal membranes often remain intact, secondary bacterial infection of the fetus will develop later than with other forms of dystocia. Honparkhe *et al* (2008) and Brijesh kumar et al (2019) also reported protracted cases of pre cervical uterine torsion in buffaloes and treated with laparohysterotomy to remove emphysematous fetus to save the dams life. It is concluded that buffaloes in advanced pregnancy suffering abdominal pain, recurrent bloat, scanty faeces should always explored per rectally or vaginally to rule out uterine torsion.

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