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A case of successful uterine detorsion in a goat

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Abstract

A live fetus was delivered successfully from the dam by uterine detorsion with the help of the plank method.

Keywords: Goat, torsion, dystocia, plank method, detorsion

1. Introduction

Uterine torsion is the rotation of the pregnant uterus on its longitudinal axis. Uterine torsion may be of varying degree i.e. from 45°-180° or even more Roberts (2004) [6]. The condition is rarely encountered in goats due to the difference anatomy of broad ligament and it is diagnosed usually by palpating the constricted anterior vagina, which indicates the direction of the uterine rotation Arthur (2001) [1]. Parturition does not proceed despite severe and prolonged straining during first stage of labour in goats affected with uterine torsion (Singh *et al.*, 1979) [7]. This report describes a rare case of right side post cervical uterine torsion in goat and its successful management by using plank method and subsequently vaginal delivery of fetus following slight obstetrical maneuvering.

2. Case history and observation

A goat (3rd parity) with gestation period around 5 months 10 days showing symptoms of parturition was presented for the treatment at TVCC, College of Veterinary and Animal Science, Bikaner. According to the history, the goat was anorectic, restlessness and showing tachypnea with normal rectal temperature (101.1°F) and no evidence of water bag rupture or fetal fluids from the vagina, and saw the abdominal straining and colic like symptoms from last night. On per vaginal examination revealed edematous birth canal with twisted vaginal folds indicating ~180-250° right side post cervical uterine torsion.

3. Handling of case and discussion

The goat was casted on the right side in lateral recumbency. The wooden plank was placed on the flank region (Fig. 1). A moderate pressure was applied on plank using hands to fix the uterus. The goat was gradually rolled in the direction of the torsion i.e. right side by maintaining moderate pressure on the plank. Following one rotation, per vaginal examination revealed successful detorsion and fetus limbs were approachable in water bag (Fig. 2). Following complete dilation of cervix, the dystocia was successfully corrected with slight manipulation and delivered a live fetus (Fig. 3). Placenta expelled completely following delivery of live fetus. Post operatively, animal was administered with 5% DNS 500ml i/v, intacef tazo pet 562.5 mg i/m, calcium borogluconate 60 ml slow i/v and tribivet 5ml i/m for 3 days. The goat was eventually recovered well on follow-up of the case.

Uterine torsion is the maternal cause of the dystocia and mostly occurred during the onset or late first stage of parturition (Nanda and Sharma, 1986) [5]. Dhaliwal *et al.* (1986) [3] diagnosed the occurrence of uterine torsion in goats. Small animals with one fetus are more prone to uterine torsion as compared to more than single fetus. The uterine torsion can be corrected by rolling of the dam and laparotomy (Roberts, 2004) [6]. Among these methods, an oldest and simplest method to rectify uterine torsion is rolling. Schaffer's method and Sharma's modified Schaffer's method is being applied successfully in correction of uterine torsion in large ruminants. Balasubramanian *et al.* (2013) [2], Kumar *et al.* (2014) [4] suggested that the most accurate method for correction of uterine torsion in small ruminants is modified Schaffer's method which results in successfully detortion of uterine torsion and delivery of the fetus with proper postpartum care uneventful recovery in goat.



Fig 1: Showing the goat with wooden plank in lateral recumbency



Fig 2: Goat showing water bag through birth canal



Fig 3: Goat with their fetus

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