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The Pharma Innovation



ISSN (E): 2277- 7695 ISSN (P): 2349-8242 NAAS Rating: 5.23 TPI 2021; SP-10(5): 596-597 © 2021 TPI

www.thepharmajournal.com Received: 23-02-2021 Accepted: 09-04-2021

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Successful management of uterine torsion in crossbred Jamunapari doe: A case report

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Abstract

Uterine torsion is twisting of the uterus on its long axis and it is less common in sheep and goats. A two years old goat was presented in a field case with a history of continuous straining for the past 5 hours. A vaginal examination revealed twisting of the uterus spirally downward to the left side and it was post cervical. Modified schaffers method (plank on flank) applied to correct the condition and a live male kid was delivered.

Keywords: Uterine torsion, Jamunapari doe, sheep and goats

Introduction

Uterine torsion is twisting of the uterus on its long axis. It may occur in all species of animals normally reported in dairy cattle, sheep and goats. Uterine torsion commonly occurs in the second stage or third stage of parturition (Noakes *et al.*, 2001)^[2]. This incidence is less common in small ruminants compared to bovines due to sub lumbar attachment of mesometrium and frequent bicornual pregnancy. Presence of an unequal number of fetuses in the uterine horn is one of the main predisposing factors for the uterine torsion (Roberts, 1971)^[3].

Case history

A two years old crossbred Jamunapari goat was presented with the history of full-term pregnancy and continuous straining for the past 5 hours. On clinical examination vital signs are normal. Vaginal examination revealed left side spirally twisted uterus and very mild mucous discharge. Cervix not palpable. Based on the vaginal examination it was diagnosed as the left side post cervical torsion.

Treatment and Discussion

Goat was casted on sand on the left side lateral recumbency towards the torsion side. A wooden plank was placed over the flank region. Instead of fixing the uterus externally one person was pressing the plank by their hands at the flank region. After fixing the flank region both the forelimbs and hind limbs were held by different persons. Animal was rotated gently and towards the torsion on the left side. Similarly, the animal was rotated slowly twice towards the torsion side and it was relieved successfully by applying modified schaffers method. On Vaginal examination the dilated cervix was noticed with a water bag. Water bag ruptured manually and the live male kid was delivered successfully by gentle traction. After detorsion, treatment was done with Inj. Entrofloxacin-7.5 mg/kg body weight-Fortvir-VIRBAC, Inj. Meloxicam-0.5mg/kg-Melonex-INTAS, Inj. Chlorphenaramine maleate-2 ml/total dose for 3 days. Fluid therapy was done with Inj. Ringers Lactate 500 ml i/v with Inj. Tribivet-INTAS and Inj. Tonophosphan-5ml-MSD.

Uterine torsion incidence is less common in sheep and goats because of difference in the attachment of mesometrium (Sood *et al.*, 2002) ^[5]. The entire length of the pregnant uterus rotates on its longitudinal axis clockwise and anticlockwise along with foetus and foetal membranes. Sometimes foetus and foetal membranes rotate with the uterus which leads to compression of blood supply and death of foetus. Diagnosing uterine torsion is the difficult task for inexperienced obstetrics case handlers. The best method is rolling the Dam and simultaneously giving pressure on the flank region (Dhaliwal *et al.*, 1986; Sharma *et al.*, 2018) ^[1, 4]. Hence, the conclusion of the present study modified schaffers method can be applied to correct the post cervical uterine torsion in goats without any surgical involvement.



Fig 1: Detorsion-Plank kept over the flank region (Modified Schaffers method)



Fig 2: After detorsion - Delivery of live male foetus

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