Management of Dystocia Due to Uterine Torsion in a Doe

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Abstract
A 4 year old nondescript doe was brought with the history of full term pregnancy, abdominal straining since 16 hours and mucous discharge from vagina. The owner reported futile attempts made to deliver the kid. Per vaginal examination revealed twisting of vaginal fold spirally downward and forward to the right side. The case was diagnosed as uterine torsion and emergency caesarean section was performed. Following restraining the animal in right lateral recumbancy, surgery was accomplished under epidural anaesthesia using 3ml of 2% Lignocaine HCl. The uterus was exteriorated with due caution and incised at position where fetal extremity was felt. After removal of dead fetous one complete rotation ($180^0$) was made to detort uterus. The animal made an uneventful recovery.

Key words: Doe, Uterine torsion, Caesarean

Introduction
Uterine torsion is twisting or rotation of uterus on its long axis. Dystocia in sheep and goat can be resultant of poor maternal confirmation, oversized foetus, fetal malpresentation, partial or complete uterine torsion, ring womb and ectopic pregnancy. Uterine torsion is a maternal dystocia characterized by rotation along its axis during late, first or early stage of labor. It has been reported to occur in all domestic animals, seen most commonly in bovines and occasionally in goats due to frequent bicornual pregnancy (Roberts, 1971; Arthur et. al., 1989). In the present communication, successful management of uterine torsion with removal of dead foetus is reported.

History and clinical Examination:
A 4 year old nondescript doe was brought with the history of full term pregnancy, abdominal straining since 16 hours and mucous discharge from vagina. The animal was showing exhaustive expulsive efforts, moderately anorectic and colicy pain. The owner reported futile attempts made to deliver the kid. Per vaginal examination reveal twisting of vaginal fold spirally downward and forward to right side. The
dorsal vulvar commissar was pulled inside to right side which could be markedly observed. Even one finger could not be passed to touch foetus. The condition was diagnosed as uterine torsion and decided to perform emergency caesarean section.

**Surgical treatment and discussion**

Following restraining the animal in right lateral recumbancy, surgery was accomplished under epidural anaesthesia using 3ml of 2% Lignocaine HCl. Doe was prepared aseptically for surgery by shaving left lower flank and disinfected with antiseptic scrub and cleaned with surgical spirit. The uterus was exteriorated with due caution and incised at position where fetal extremity was felt. After removal of dead fetous (Fig.1) one complete rotation (180°) was made to detort uterus. After that the uterus was flushed with normal saline and Betadine solution. Antibiotic pessaries (Furea bolus) were kept intrauterine and uterine incision line was closed with double row of lambert sutures using catgut no.1. The peritoneal cavity was thoroughly cleaned with betadine solution. The abdominal wound and skin was closed in routine manner (Fig.2). The animal was given fluid therapy DNS 500ml, injection Intacef Tazo 500mg I/V, Injection Tribivet 2ml I/V and Injection Melonex 2ml I/M for 5 consecutive days and surgical sutures were removed on 10th day post operation. The animal was stable and taking normal feed and water and had an uneventful recovery.

Torsion of uterus is a complication of late first stage or early second stage of labor due to instability of uterus which results from greater curvature of organ being dorsal and uterus being disposed anteriorly to its subilial suspension by broad ligaments. Torsion may also occur due to running of animal, loss of fetal fluids and movements of animals up and down the hill (Roberts, 1971). Most commonly, torsion extends caudally beyond cervix, such that vaginal wall is involved in rotation (Sloss and Dufty, 1980). Excessive foetal weight appears to be a predisposing factor for uterine torsion (Frazer et. al., 1996).

**References:**


