

POSTPARTUM UTERINE PROLAPSE IN A SOW-A CASE REPORT

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ABSTRACT

A sow aged 3 years was presented to veterinary clinical complex, Gannavaram for treatment of prolapsed uterus. On examination averted uterine horns were found hanging from vulva and tear was observed in the vaginal wall. The prolapsed uterine mass was congested and oedematous. The averted mass was cleaned thoroughly and attempted for reposition but failed. The sow lost its life after 30 hours.

Keywords: Sow, Uterine prolapse, Vaginal tear

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Postpartum uterine prolapse are most commonly observed than pre-partum prolapse in domestic animals (Roberts, 2004). In animals, often after giving birth to young ones hypocalcaemia becomes severe and results in paresis recumbency and followed by death (Bhanugopal and Lievaart, 2014). Low grade forages, increased feeding of concentrates, hypocalcaemia and estrogenic content have been associated with this condition (Miesner and Anderson, 2008). Uterine prolapse that occurs more than 24 - 48 hours postpartum is extremely rare and complicated by incomplete closure of cervix, making replacement of uterus difficult (Fubini and Duchane, 2006).

A sow aged 3 years was presented to veterinary hospital, Gannavaram with a problem of prolapsed uterus. Owner stated that farrowing was normal and sow ran away

after farrowing and was traced after 45 hours. Eight piglets were born during farrowing. On examination averted non gravid uterine horns were found hanging from the vulva. (Fig. 1). Tear in vaginal wall was also observed. The prolapsed uterine mass was hard, dry, congested and oedematous. The sow was weak and recumbent. Pyrexia was observed. Serum calcium, inorganic phosphorus and blood glucose levels were significantly lower. Epidural anaesthesia was administered with 2% lignocaine hydrochloride @ 7 ml epidurally. Dirt was removed and prolapse mass was cleaned with antiseptic KMnO₄ solution. Urinary bladder was evacuated by lifting the prolapsed uterine mass. Vaginal tear was sutured by using catgut 1.0 in a continous pattern. (Fig.2). Pop in spray was applied in order to reduce the size of the mass but could not achieve due to hardness of the tissue.

Prolapsed mass was lubricated with carboxy methyl cellulose. Repositioning

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Fig. 1. Averted and damaged uterine horns



Fig.2. Suturing of vaginal tear

of prolapsed mass was tried by gentle manipulation near vulval lips but prolapsed mass could not be repositioned. Poor prognosis was explained to the owner regarding the case and was advised for surgical intervention but the owner was reluctant for surgical intervention and took the animal. Follow up of the case revealed death of the sow after 30 hours.

Compared to vaginal prolapse in sow, uterine prolapse are longer, larger and deep red in colour and should be treated immediately (Straw *et al.*, 2006). Prognosis depends on duration of the case, the degree of necrosis and contamination (Wachida and Kisani, 2011). In this case death of sow may occurred due to severe degree of damage, cyanosis, stress toxemia and bacterial contamination.

Postpartum utero vaginal prolapse needs immediate attention otherwise mutation causes severe lacerations and bleeding of the prolapsed tissue which results in oedema, cyanosis and necrosis of uterus (Joseph *et al.*, 2001). Successful prolapse treatment depends upon return of animal to normal reproductive performance which depends upon percentage of stress and organ damage (Straw *et al.*, 2006). Prolapsed uterine masses are highly prone to trauma, severe bleeding and contamination that leads to death of animal mostly due to shock (Jana and Ghosh, 2009).

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