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Post-Partum Uterine Prolapse in a Goat : A Case Report

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Abstract

This study reports a case of uterine prolapse in a goat. The animal was brought to veterinary dispensary, Mangathotty, Idukki, Kerala with the complaint of prolapse of the uterus after kidding. The animal was recumbent. The everted uterus was cleaned by washing with potassium permanganate solution to remove the gross debris and placenta also removed. Sugar was applied to reduce the edema. Prolapsed uterus was then replaced back in to the pelvic cavity and retention suture was placed to prevent the recurrence. Antibiotics, anti-inflammatory and antihistamine were given.

Key words: Goat, Post-partum, Uterine prolapse

Uterine prolapse refers to the complete

post-partum eversion of the gravid horn and it is very common in cow and sheep less common in goats and rare in mare (Nair *et al.*,2019). It is very common during the initial hours of parturition when the cervix is open and uterus lack tone (Hanie, 2006). The exact cause for the uterine prolapse is not completely known though several factors are found to be contributing to this condition. The condition was found frequently associated with dystocia and hypocalcemia which might result in increased straining and poor uterine tone (Youngquist, 1997). Hypocalcemia can result in myometrial stress and delays cervical involution. Regular contractions are essential for the expulsion of the placenta. Hypocalcemia can predispose to retention of placenta too. The weight of retained placenta as well as the constant pulling by the animal to get rid of retained placenta, increased estrogen content in the feed and conditions that increase abdominal pressure like tympany, can contribute to uterine prolapse (Wachida and

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Kisani, 2011). Successful management of uterine prolapse depends on various factors like duration of case, degree of damage and contamination. The present paper report a case of post partum uterine prolapse in a malabari crossbred goat.

Case History and Observations

A malabari crossbred goat of about 4 years old (third parity) was presented to Veterinary Dispensary, Mangathotty, Idukki, Kerala with uterus protruding from the vulva and in recumbent condition. Fetal membranes were attached to the uterine caruncles. The animal was presented within 10 hours of normal kidding. Two kids were born alive. Body temperature was 102.7°F. Prolapsed uterus was congested, swollen and stained with faecal material and debris (Fig 1).

Treatment and Discussion

Initially, the adhered fetal membranes were removed from the everted uterus. Fetal membranes were easily separable. The prolapsed uterus was then washed with potassium permanganate solution to remove the debris and fecal material. Sugar was applied over the everted uterine mass and waited for few minutes. It helped in reducing the size of the uterus and easy replacement of uterus in to the pelvic cavity. Because the animal was not straining no epidural anesthesia was given. The animal was kept under sternal recumbency with two hindlimbs pulled out behind her and held high. Then gently the prolapsed mass was

pushed back in through the vagina in to the pelvic cavity and Buhners suture was placed in the vulva as a retention technique to prevent further recurrence (Figure 2). The animal was administered long acting OTC (1.5ml or 300mg), meloxicam@0.3mg/kg BW and Chlorpheniramine maleate (30mg) intramuscularly.

Uterine prolapse occur during the third stage of labour when the fetus is expelled and fetal membranes get separated from maternal caruncles (Noakes,2001). The occurrence of this condition was in accordance with the report of Alagar and Velladurai,(2018), Abbas and Abed, (2021), Nair *et al.* (2019) and Wachida and Kisani(2011). It was reported that animals raised in confinement are more prone to these conditions than the animals grazing outside. This is because of weakness of muscles especially that of uterus due to lack of movement which result in difficult birth thereby forcing the animal to push again and again which eventually leads to prolapse of uterus (Abbas and Abed, 2021; Majeed and Taha,1991). In present case also animal was raised in enclosed shed and not allowed to graze outside which might have predisposed to this condition. Incidence of uterine prolapse increase with age which is attributed due to multiple parturitions resulting in relaxation of pelvic ligaments and decrease in energy reserves in older animals (Bhatti *et al.*,2006). Several complications like haemorrhage, shock, septic metritis, low milk yield, infertility and death were reported in association with uterine prolapse. The most common complication is due to toxemia which occur



Fig 1: Everted uterus appears congested and swollen



Fig 2: Animal after the replacement and suturing

mostly due to fecal contamination of the everted uterus (Bharti and Rajnish, 2014). So cleaning of the prolapsed mass with antiseptic solution is necessary but aggressive attempts to be avoided because it may cause systemic absorption of contaminants into circulation (Scott and Gessert, 1998). Success of treatment depends on the duration as time dependent changes like edema, cyanosis and even leads to gangrene may happen. As reported previously uterine prolapse in malabari goats occur commonly within hours of parturition same as in this case too. It is not complicated as in large ruminants because of its small size (Nair *et al.*, 2019). Broad spectrum antibiotics must be administered for three to five days do as to avoid secondary bacterial infection.

Summary

The present paper reports the occurrence of uterine prolapse in a 4-year-old goat and its successful management.

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