THERAPEUTIC MANAGEMENT OF UTERINE PROLAPSE IN DOG- A CASE REPORT

Krishna Kumar[1], S.N. Shukla[2], P. Inwati and A. Bisen
[1]M.V.Sc. Student, [2]Associate Professor, Department of Animal Reproduction, Gynaecology and Obstetrics, College of Veterinary Science; Nanaji Deshmukh Veterinary Science University, Jabalpur – 482001 (M.P.).
[Received: 07.1.2017; Accepted: 05.9.2017]

Uterine prolapse is a rare clinical condition in bitches. Post-partum uterine prolapse occurs within few hours after the expulsion of the fetus. It is commonly observed in large ruminants and occasionally in bitches. It can be complete or partial and having its appearance as cylindrical or Y-shaped. The determining factor in choosing a method of treatment is whether or not the bitch is intended for breeding purpose in the future. The most suitable therapeutic approach for uterine prolapse is surgery. In the present study manual replacement of uterus is reported.
Key words: Bitch, Post-partum, Uterine prolapse.

Uterine prolapse is a rare clinical condition in female dogs with a reported incidence of less than 0.03 per cent (Wood, 1986). It can happen in first pregnancy, but is most likely to occur in parous bitches, with or without complications. The condition occurs due to prolonged labor (up to 48 hours after whelping) when the cervix is extremely dilated and may involve single or both uterine horns. Other possible causes include prolonged dystocia, oversized fetus, multiple pregnancies and laxity of uterine ligaments, excessive abdominal contractions, uterine atony and placental detachment (Wood, 1986). In the uterine prolapse, a uterine segment passes through the cervix and vagina when the cervix is relaxed and protrudes at the vulva, in variable extension (Davidson, 2009). In most cases, eversion of single horn was seen through vulvar lips with fair to good prognosis (Benesch and Wright 2001). In companion animals, the condition is difficult to handle owing to the short length of the uterine horn and the inability of the operator to aid replacement with his hand as in case of large domestic animals (Jones and Joshua 1982). Severity of the clinical signs and prognosis depend on the duration of the prolapse. The determining factor in choosing a method of treatment is whether or not the bitch is intended for breeding purpose in the future. The most suitable therapeutic approach for uterine prolapse is surgery, in particular when one uterine horn is fully everted (Payan-Carreira *et al.*, 2012). In the present study since the owner wanted to retain the breeding capacity of the bitch manual replacement of uterus is reported.

Case History and Observations

A two year non-descript bitch was presented for treatment of uterine prolapse at Teaching Veterinary Clinical Complex, College of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry, Jabalpur. As per history, the animal was in second parity and had delivered three pups past 24 hours. Immediately after the delivery of third pup, there was complete eversion of both uterine horns. The bitch was weak, emaciated, anorectic, dehydrated, dull and depressed with rectal temperature 102.2^0 F. The prolapsed mass was slight soiled with some necrosis (Fig.1).

Treatment and Discussion

The prolapsed mass was thoroughly washed and cleaned with mild potassium permanganate solution and thereafter, both the uterine horns were reposed initially with thumb and fingers and the uterus was pushed forward beyond the cervix. Horizontal mattress suture was applied on dorsal and ventral commissure of vulva (Fig.2). The treatment involved parental administration of antibiotics, anti-inflammatory, analgesics and immune stimulant for seven days. The owner was advised to give good nursing diet to the animal. Follow-up inquiry after one week revealed that the bitch had an eventful recovery.

Complete eversion of uterine horns along with body of uterus resulted in uterine

Fig-1.Indicates complete Y-shaped eversion

Fig-2. Sutured Vulvar lips after reposition of both uterine horns of prolapsed mass

prolapse. In the present case, malnutrition and forceful straining seemed to be the most probable cause for the uterine prolapse.

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