

Non-Surgical Management of Uterine torsion in Marathwadi buffaloes - A report of 15 cases

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ABSTRACT

The study was conducted in 15 Marathwadi buffaloes reported with history of completion of gestation and clinical signs of uterine torsion. Successful correction of uterine torsion in 15 Marathwadi buffaloes was conducted by applying extra-abdominal pressure by Modified Sharma's plank method. After rolling 15 animals were treated with fluids, non steroid anti inflammatory drugs and other supportive drugs. In twelve cases, immediately after relieving torsion, water bag came out and fetus was expelled within half an hour. Whereas in three cases incomplete cervical dilatation was noticed, these three buffaloes were treated with Inject able cervical dilator. Three buffaloes normally parturated within 5 hrs. The 15 buffaloes were successfully detorted by modified Sharma's method and Out of 15 Marathwadi buffaloes 11 (73.33%) buffaloes were delivered with live fetus whereas in 4 (26.66%) buffaloes fetuses were dead and maternal survivability rate was 100%.

KEYWORDS: Marathwadi buffalo; modified sharma's method; uterine torsion.

Introduction

The incidence of uterine torsion in buffaloes is quite high and its etiology is related to incoordinate fetal movements, pendulous abdomen, excessive fetal weight and lack of fetal fluid in advance pregnancy. Management of uterine torsion can be done by surgical method like caesarian section but the next conception and parturition is questionable. The present study of uterine torsion in Marathwadi buffaloes were relieved by rolling of dam with extra abdominal pressure (Sharma's modified method) (Singh and Dadarwal, 2004).

Case History and Clinical Observation

Fifteen Marathwadi buffaloes aged between six to nine years were presented with history of completion of gestation period, restlessness, colic, frequent sitting down, intermittent straining, anorexia, constipation, tail twitching and failure of parturition. The animals were reported to the between 5 to 15 hrs after onset of symptoms. All reported cases were examined per rectally and per vaginally. Stenosis of vagina tightly pulled

broad ligaments were palpated and also confirmed fetal life (fremitus). Based on gynaecological examination, cases were diagnosed as post cervical right side uterine torsion of 180°.

Treatment and Discussion

The cases were treated with inj. Anistamin^a (chlorphenaramine maleate) @ 5 ml i/m, Dextrose 5% @ 2 lit i/v, inj. Melonex^a (Meloxicam) @ 0.5mg/Kg body weight i/m. Immediately after treatment



Fig. 1: Detorsion in Progress

buffaloes were casted with forelegs and hind legs tied separately in lateral recumbancy on the same side of torsion. Carboxymethyl cellulose sodium salt @ 20 gm per liter of luke warm water was used as a lubricant intravaginally. On left side of the abdomen one wooden plank (13 feet length, 12 inch width) was kept in oblique direction (Fig.1).

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Two persons were standing on plank (ground side) while one person applied pressure on the other end of plank (abdominal side). After applying pressure animal has been rolled rapidly towards torsion side. Ten cases were detorted by two rolling of dams and five cases were detorted by three rolls (Sharma's modified method). (Singh and Dadarwal, 2004) (Fig.1).

In twelve cases, immediately after relieving torsion water bag came out and fetus was expelled within half an hour. Whereas in three cases incomplete cervical dilatation was noticed. After detorsion all the buffaloes were treated with Dextrose 5% @ 2lit i/v, inj. Flobac SA^a (Enrofloxacin 100mg/ml) @7.5mg/Kg body weight i/m, inj. Tribivet[®] @ 5 ml i/m, inj. Caldee-12[®]@15 ml i/m.

In addition to above treatment in three cases of incomplete cervical dilatation were treated with Inj. Buscopan[®] (Hyoscine Butylbromide 20mg/ml) @15 ml i/v. All treated cases were normally parturated within 5 hrs. After parturition all the animals were treated with Cleanex^d bolus (Nitrofurazone, Metranidazole, Urea, Povidone Iodine) @ 8 I/U and liq Utrovect[®] (Herbal uterine cleanser) @ 100ml orally for 5 days. Out of 15 Marathwadi buffaloes 11 (73.33%) were delivered with live fetus whereas 4 (26.66%) fetuses were dead and maternal survivability rate was 100%.

Fast rolling the dam casted on same side as that of torsion had been tried with little success (Fouad and El-Sawaf, 1964). The 15 buffaloes were successfully detorted by modified Sharma's method and they all were survived after detorsion. Singh and Dadarwal (2004) reported that the most preferred method for detorsion has been the Schaffer's method, in which the dam is casted in lateral recumbancy to the side as of torsion and the foetus is fixed with the help of a plank (13 feet length, 12 inch width) kept in an inclined manner on the abdomen of the animal. The animal is rolled to the other side as a person keeps pressure on side of edge by standing on it. Due to problem of slipping over of the plank while rolling in buffaloes, modified Sharma's method was used. Pressure

on the end touching the ground was maintained with 2-3 persons standing on it while another person modulated the pressure on the other end of plank.

Similar findings were reported by Pattabiraman *et al.* (1979) that 73.4% of uterine torsion cases could be successfully relieved by rolling with maternal survivability rate of 97% as compared to 61.5% following caesarean section. While Prabhakar *et al.* (1994) reported higher survival rate in post cervical uterine torsion cases (87%) than in pre cervical (54.5%).

Rolling in large ruminants is stressful procedure leading to haemodynamic changes. So to compensate haemodynamic changes fluids, non steroid anti inflammatory drugs were included in the treatment protocol prior to rolling, which might have contributed favorably to maternal survival. Potent antibiotics and ecbolic were also included in the treatment to avoid complications like septic metritis as involution in such cases is bit delayed due to uterine inertia and edematous changes in the uterus.

Summary

Modified Sharma's plank method with extra-abdominal pressure was found to be most successful correction of uterine torsion in 15 Marathwadi buffaloes. This non surgical method for detorsion is safe, economical, easy to handle and effective on field condition.

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