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Successful Management of Right Sided Post-Cervical Uterine Torsion in Osmanabadi Goat with Modified Schaffer's Method

Sudarshan Patule *, Ramteke Snehal, Anil Patil, K. Nandini

Department of Animal Reproduction Gynaecology and Obstetrics, College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Udgir, Maharashtra Animal and Fishery Sciences University, Nagpur

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ABSTRACT

This report describes the successful management of a right-sided post-cervical uterine torsion in a 4-year-old Osmanabadi goat using the modified Schaffer's (Plank-on-Flank) technique. After one rotation, the cervix became palpable, and a live kid was delivered per vaginally. The doe was recovered uneventfully within three days following post-delivery treatment.

Introduction

Uterine torsion refers to the rotation of the uterus around its longitudinal axis. It occurs most frequently in cattle and buffalo, while uncommon and only about 2% in does and ewes (Jackson 2004) and rarely observed in mares, bitches, and sows (Parkinson et al., 2019; Purohit, 2006). The bicornuate nature of pregnancy in small ruminant with sub lumbar attachment of the mesometrium makes the uterus more stable and less prone for uterine torsion (Sood et al., 2002). The modified Schaffer's method is commonly employed in bovines to correct the uterine torsion which may also be used in small ruminant with some modifications (Dalal et al., 2022). In the present case, a right-sided post-cervical uterine torsion was successfully corrected using the modified Schaffer's (Plank-on-Flank) technique, resulting in the delivery of a live kid per

vaginally.

Case history and observations

A 4-year-old Osmanabadi doe in her third parity was presented to the Teaching Veterinary Clinical Complex, College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Udgir, with a history of completing gestation, accompanied by straining and restlessness since early morning. Abdominal palpation confirmed that there is a fetus within the uterus. Apparently, the doe appeared dull and depressed, exhibiting irregular straining. The udder was engorged, and the vulval lips were slightly swollen with vaginal discharge. Per-vaginal examination revealed that around 90° clockwise twist in the anterior vagina indicating right-sided post-cervical uterine torsion.

Corresponding author

sudarshanpatule400@gmail.com (Sudarshan Patule)

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Treatment and discussion

The doe was restrained in a right lateral recumbency with both forelimbs and hind limbs tied separately. A wooden plank (40 cm × 20 cm × 2 cm) was placed over the flank region to externally stabilize the uterus externally. A gentle

pressure was applied on the abdomen using the plank and the animal was slowly rolled towards the side of the torsion (Fig. 1). After the first roll, the cervical plug was expelled and the cervix became approachable easily. The fetus was found in the anterior longitudinal presentation with dorso-sacral position, and a live kid was delivered with a gentle traction (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1. Before, during and after treatment of the uterine torsion of pregnant doe

The doe was re-examined for confirmation of presence of another fetus but no additional fetus was detected. After the successful detorsion, treatment included Inj. Tranexamic acid @ 10 mg/kg, Inj. Flunixin Meglumine @ 1 mg/kg, Inj. Chlorpheniramine maleate @ 0.2 mg/kg, and Inj. Ceftriaxone and Tazobactam @ 10 mg/kg. Two intrauterine ecobolic bolus containing urea and metronidazole were administered. Inj. Flunixin Meglumine and Inj. Ceftriaxone with Tazobactam were continued for the next two consecutive days. The placenta was expelled within four hours post-delivery, and the doe made an uneventful recovery within three days after detorsion and treatment.

The modified Schaffer's method, as described for bovines (Deka et al., 2022) and small ruminants (Sharma et al., 2018; Chahar, 2018; Ramteke et al., 2023), was employed for the correction of uterine torsion. Diagnosis of uterine torsion in small ruminants can be challenging due to restricted access for thorough per vaginal and trans rectal examinations (Sharun and Erdogan, 2019). Baria et al. (2023), uterine torsion in goats most commonly occurs on the right side and typically affects the post-cervical region. Furthermore, most cases are associated with unicornual pregnancies. The present case was successfully managed by modified Schaffer's method using wooden plank and therapeutic intervention.

Conclusion

It can be concluded that the Modified Schaffer's method

is a highly effective technique for correcting the uterine torsion in early and fresh cases without the need for surgical intervention ensuring future fertility of dam (Ramteke et al., 2023).

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