

A NOVEL, UN-CONVENTIONAL DETORSION METHOD FOR CORRECTING LEFT-SIDED UTERINE TORSION IN GOAT

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SUMMARY

A two-year-old goat was presented with a history of pregnancy of unknown gestation length, frequent sit-ups and whitish vaginal discharge since 24 hours. Gynaeco-clinical examination revealed a left side twist of cranial vaginal mucosa and on forced insertion into the twist, only one finger could be inserted with difficulty but not able to palpate any fetal parts, indicating a post cervical left-sided uterine torsion. The torsion was also confirmed with visualization of twist in the vagina through the vaginal speculum. For detorsion, a rope was tightly tied around the abdomen to create pressure, to stabilize the uterus followed by casting the goat over the ground on left lateral recumbency. Then fast and steadily goat was rolled towards the same side of torsion, after four complete rolls complete detorsion was achieved. Correction of torsion was ascertained by the disappearance of vaginal folds and the appearance of the allantoic bag through vulva within half an hour. Subsequently, a dead male kid was delivered with slight assistance per-vaginally and post-operative supportive therapy was done for three days.

Keywords: Goat, Uterine torsion, Un-conventional method

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Uterine torsion is the twisting of uterus on its long axis and it occurs rarely in sheep and goat (Noakes, 2019). The low incidence of uterine torsion in goats was reported to be due to sub-lumbar attachment of mesometrium rather than sub-ilial as in cow along with frequent bicornuate pregnancies in goats (Roberts, 1986). The other possible reason ascribed for inter-species variation is the greater athleticism of the sheep and goat in rising to their feet from recumbency (Noakes, 2019). Despite variations in the incidence of torsion in different species, instability between the horns during gestation is considered to be a major cause for uterine torsion (Roberts, 1986) and unilateral pregnancy increases chances of torsion due to the presence of single fetus along with the associated movement of the animals.

A two-year-old goat was presented with the history of unknown gestation length, showing frequent sit-ups, inappetence and scanty whitish vaginal discharge since 24 hours. Gynaeco-clinical examination revealed a left-sided twist of cranial vaginal mucosa and on forced palpation with difficulty one finger could be inserted through the twist without assessing to any fetal parts. Further, torsion was confirmed by visualizing the fold in cranial vagina through a speculum. Hence, it was confirmed as post cervical, left-sided, uterine torsion of HTM 180°.

For detorsion, a rope of about 1-2 cm diameter and around 2 m length was tightly tied around the abdomen to create pressure and to stabilize the uterus, the goat was cast on left lateral recumbency followed by a fast and steady

rotation of the goat on the left side. Each roll was followed up with a per-vaginal examination to confirm the progress of detorsion and after four complete rolls, complete detorsion was achieved. Subsequently, goat exhibited progressive straining and the allantoic sac was observed later on. Further, a dead male kid was delivered with slight assistance (Figs. 1-7).

Post operative management was done for three days with Calberol @ 1 ml/kg BW– I/V, Dextrose Normal Saline @ 5 ml/kg BW–I/V, Inj. Oxytocin @ 15IU- I/V, Inj. Chlorpheniramine maleate @ 0.5 mg/kg BW-I/M and Inj. Ceftriaxone @10 mg/kg BW-I/M.

The reason for torsion in the present case could be ascribed to unilateral pregnancy, which causes instability and predisposes for torsion (Roberts, 1986). The treatment regimens for the same in goats include rolling of the dam while giving pressure on the abdomen using a wooden plank as per modified Schaffer's method (Raja *et al.*, 2013) or caesarean section (Bansod and Srivastava, 1991). In the present case, post-cervical uterine torsion in the goat was diagnosed per-vaginally by palpating the vaginal folds as performed by Sood *et al.* (2002) and confirmed with vaginal speculum as done in ewe by Kumar *et al.* (2016). In this case, an unconventional, alternative and non-surgical approach was attempted successfully to correct the torsion. Hence, it can be concluded that fixation of uterus can be attempted by tying a rope around the abdomen to correct torsion successfully as an innovative approach in fresh and promptly diagnosed cases of uterine torsion in goats.

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Fig. 1. Goat presented



Fig. 4. Left side rolling of goat



Fig. 2. Left side twisted vaginal folds



Fig. 5. Per vaginal examination



Fig. 3. Rope tied around abdomen



Fig. 6 & 7. (6) Appearance of allantoic sac; (7) Dead male kid

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