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Popular Article

Clinical Management of Lumpy Skin Disease - A Case Report

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Abstract

This report is about a calf aged 8 months, which was affected with lumpy skin disease. Animal came into clinical complex with cutaneous nodules all over the body from past 4 days. It has weak demeanor with emaciated condition. On clinical examination, it showed fever, sunken eyes, elevated nodular lesions on the skin, swollen pre scapular and pre femoral lymph nodes. Based on history, current epidemics and thorough clinical evaluation, tentatively diagnosed as Cutaneous nodular disease, presumably Lumpy skin disease, as there is no specific treatment is available, but prevention of secondary infection by advocating antibiotics along with supportive treatment. Without any complications, the animal came back to normal condition.

Key words: lumpy skin disease, Pre femoral lymph nodes, Antibiotics.

Introduction

Lumpy skin disease is an acute febrile disease of cattle which is characterised by eruption of skin nodules of various sizes (S.N.Sharma and S.C.Adlakha, 2009). It is a severe, systemic disease of cattle associated with the “NEETHLING” pox virus, a *capri pox virus* (O.M.Radostits, *et al.*,2009). It is mainly transmitted by Air borne, biting fly, agro-climates and it has the incubation period of 4 to 14 days. Animal will expose the diseased condition by clinical symptoms like high rise in temperature, nasal discharges, lameness, reduce in milk production, pneumonia, brisket edema and abortion occur among pregnant animals. Generalized *lymphadenitis* and *edema of the limbs* are common.

Lumpy skin disease confirmation can be done by laboratory diagnosis based on demonstration of intracytoplasmic inclusions in the skin lesions, presence of virus particle by



negative staining electron microscopy, detection of the viral antigen, isolation and demonstration of virus specific antibodies (Dilip. K. Sarma,2004). Normally the morbidity rate varies from 5-15% but mortality rate never exceeds 10 percent.

History

A calf of 8 months old presented to Teaching Veterinary Clinical Complex, CVSc, Korutla. Owner reported that animal has reduced feed intake, multiple cutaneous elevations with pain and discharges from eyes and nose. A detailed clinical examination was carried out and vital signs are taken as: Temperature 104.5°F, Conjunctival mucous membrane pink, on distant physical examination revealed swollen limbs, brisket edema, cutaneous nodular lesions all over the body and swollen pre scapular and pre femoral lymph nodes (Fig.1). Animal is in emaciated condition.



Fig. 1 Calf showing swollen prescapular lymph nodes and multiple cutaneous nodes

Case Management and Therapeutic Outcome

The calf was treated broad spectrum antibiotic along with supportive therapy to prevent



the secondary bacterial infections and topical dressing of the lesions. A combination therapy of Inj. Dexamethasone 0.2 mg/kg/day, IV for three consecutive days and Inj. Oxytetracycline 10 mg/kg/day, IV, for five successive days were managed along with Inj. Dextrose 5%, Inj. Tribivet 5ml intravenously. After bring down the secondary infection, owner has been advised to use herbal topical application of Healon Vet for skin healing. Liq Restobal, a herbal immunostimulant tonic used to enhance immunity and rumen function. Energy booster, Liq. Enerdyna is advised for 5 days. Post care has been taken by the owner and animal came to normal condition.

Result And Discussion

The principal manifestation of LSD is small to large sized nodular growth on the different body parts involving head, neck, limbs, genitalia etc. The regional lymph nodes are enlarged which are easily palpable. The affected animals may show high rise of body temperature, anorexia, depression and lameness. LSD is not associated with high mortalities (1-3%), but the economic losses is higher due to decrease feed intake, which causes chronic debility, reduced milk production, infertility, damage the quality of hide caused by nodular eruption on all over the body. Therefore, antimicrobial and corticosteroid drugs are given for combat the skin infection and respiratory tract infection. In present case, antibiotic Oxytetracycline and corticosteroid, Dexamethasone was given to prevent the secondary bacterial infection and respiratory infection respectively. As supportive therapy, Energy replenishment by giving intravenous glucose. As animal was emaciated thus multivitamin also given to stabilized the health of the animal. Topical neem oil (Healon vet) applied as fly repellent and also to improve the skin lesion. Within 6 days of above treatments the calf was completely recovered from the presented condition.

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