



A Monthly e Magazine
ISSN:2583-2212
Dec 2023 3(12) 4230-4232

Popular Article

Successful detorsion using a novel two-rope technique for right-sided post-cervical uterine torsion in a gravid doe

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<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.10432623>

Abstract

The present communication describes about successful management of right-side uterine torsion using two ropes technique in a gravid non-descript doe.

Introduction

Uterine torsion refers to the twisting of uterus on its longitudinal axis which is rare in small ruminants (Noakes, 2019). It is one of the maternal factors which accounts for the occurrence of dystocia. The frequency of uterine torsion in ewe and doe is low due to sub-lumbar attachment of mesometrium rather than sub-ilial as in cattle along with frequent bicornual pregnancy (Roberts, 1986). Although, the incidence of torsion varies among species, one primary cause of uterine torsion is thought to be instability between the horns during gestation (Roberts, 1986) and unilateral pregnancy increases chances of torsion due to the presence of single fetus along with the associated movement of the animals. The present case reports successful detorsion by two ropes in non-descript gravid doe followed by vaginal delivery.

Case History and Observations

A full-term pregnant doe, non-descript in breed, in her fourth gestation, was presented to the Department of Animal Reproduction, Gynaecology, and Obstetrics at the Veterinary College, Bidar. The patient exhibited signs of inappetence, restlessness, frequent sit-ups, and non-progressive intermittent straining for duration of 12 h, without any vaginal discharge. On

clinical examination, mammary gland enlargement and relaxation of the sacro-sciatic ligament were evident. Abdominal palpation revealed the presence of fetal parts. Upon vaginal examination with a speculum (Fig. 1), a spiraling clockwise twisting of the vaginal folds was observed, with no fetal parts detected. Hence, the case was diagnosed as right-sided post-cervical uterine torsion of about 180°.

Treatment and Discussion

For detorsion, two ropes were employed. Both the ropes were fastened to the cranial and caudal aspect of the abdomen to stabilise the uterus (Fig 2). The doe was placed in a right lateral recumbent position and subjected to a controlled rotation in the same direction as the torsion. Following one complete rotation, a per-vaginal examination was conducted to assess the progress of detorsion and achieve complete correction after a single roll. With the cervix now accessible, it proceeded to rupture both the allantoic and amniotic sacs, resulting in the successful vaginal delivery of a live male kid (Fig 3). Subsequently as a postoperative management inj. Ceftriaxone (500 mg, IV), inf. Calcium Borogluconate (60ml, IV), inj. Oxytocin (5IU, IM), inj. Chlorpheniramine maleate (20mg, IM), and a regimen of Replanta powder (25g, bid) was advised for three days. The doe exhibited a smooth recovery without any complications.

A possible reason for the torsion in this case could be unilateral pregnancy, which can lead to instability and increase the risk of torsion (Roberts, 1986). The procedures used for similar conditions in goats involve rolling the dam and applying pressure to the abdomen with a wooden board/ small plank in accordance with a modified Schaffer's procedure or in delayed or severe degree cases surgical intervention can be followed (Bansod and Srivastava, 1991). In the present case, post-cervical uterine torsion in the goat was diagnosed per-vaginally by palpating the vaginal folds (Sood *et al.*, 2002) and confirmed with vaginal speculum as done in ewe (Kumar *et al.*, 2016). In this case, a novel, alternate and non-surgical approach was attempted to correct the torsion.

Therefore, it can be concluded that fixation of uterus can be attempted by tying two ropes around the abdomen to correct the torsion, an approach that may be used in small ruminants.





Fig 1 Right side twist uterine torsion



Fig 2 Applying ropes to abdomen



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