

CERVICOTOMY FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF DYSTOCIA DUE TO PREPARTUM VAGINO-CERVICAL PROLAPSE IN COW

S. RAJA^{1*}, M. PALANISAMY², V. PRABAHARAN¹, R. RAJKUMAR¹ AND P. JAYAGANTHAN¹

Department of Veterinary Gynaecology and Obstetrics, Veterinary College and Research Institute, Tamil Nadu University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Orathanadu - 614 625

Received: 24.04.2018

Accepted: 08.05.2018

ABSTRACT

A case of dystocia due to peripartum vagino-cervical prolapse and imperfect cervical dilatation in a HF crossbred cow and its per vaginal delivery by cervicotomy is reported.

Key words: Cow, Cervicotomy, Cervico-vaginal prolapse, Dystocia

INTRODUCTION

Ischemia of cervical region due to prepartum prolapse in a cow may be responsible for imperfect cervical dilatation, thus leading to difficulty in normal expulsion of fetus even with normal presentation, position and posture of fetus. In such cases, cervicotomy is the simple procedure for alleviating the condition compared to cesarean section (Noakes *et al.*, 2009). The present report describes a case of dystocia due to vagino-cervical prolapse coupled with imperfect cervical dilatation and its successful management by cervicotomy in a HF crossbred cow.

CASE HISTORY AND OBSERVATIONS

A HF crossbred cow (age, 4.6 yr; b. wt., 300 kg) was presented with the history of straining and was unable to deliver the full-term calf for past 3 h. The animal was in lateral recumbency and clinical examination of the cow revealed edematous vulva with congested vaginal mucus membrane. A torn snare tied to fetal extremities present in vaginal passage revealed an earlier handling of the case. Further vaginal examination explored a dry vaginal passage with stenosed and partially dilated (3 fingers) cervical rim. The fetal limbs were in external os of cervix and remaining fetal parts were not palpable.

TREATMENT AND DISCUSSION

Treatment was initiated with intravenous administration of 3.5L 5% dextrose normal saline. Carboxymethyl cellulose gel was infused through available space in cervix along with fanning of cervical os. After 40 min of fanning, there was no progress in cervical relaxation. The cow was subjected to low caudal epidural anaesthesia (1ml 2% lignocaine HCl/ 50kg b. wt.). Thereafter, a snare was applied to fetal extremities followed by mild traction, but this led to prolapse of entire cervix. Hence, it was decided to relieve the fetus by cervicotomy.

For cervicotomy, mild traction force was applied to place the cervix in a position so that the incision can be made at 10'O clock position involving only the circular muscles. Consequently, the cervical dilatation was sufficient enough to deliver the live male calf by slight traction. The cervical incision was sutured by continuous interlock pattern with absorbable catgut (size - 2) and was replaced in position (Fig. 1). Thereafter, the cervix was lavaged with warm saline to remove the debris and cetrimide cream was applied over cervix and vaginal region. The prolapsed mass was reduced and simple vulval tape retention suture was applied as preventive measure for recurrence. The dam was treated with routine parenteral antibiotic plus supportive therapy for the next five days. The

¹Assistant Professor, ²Professor and Head; *argoraja@gmail.com



Fig. 1: Cervicotomy followed by cervical suture in a cow

examination of animal after a week revealed an uneventful recovery.

In cows, vaginal prolapse is usually a chronic, hereditary, recurrent, pre or peripartum condition and most commonly occurs in heavy dairy cattle before calving, usually in third trimester of pregnancy (Noakes *et al.*, 2009). Cervicotomy as a management technique in a fresh case of imperfect cervical dilatation was reported earlier in cow (Sathiamoorthy *et al.*, 2011). In brief, cervicotomy is a simple and effective method for approaching a case of imperfect cervical dilatation in cow.

REFERENCES

- Noakes, D.E., Parkinson, T.J and England, G.C.W. (2009). *Veterinary Reproduction and Obstetrics*, 9th Ed., W.B. Saunders. pp 239.
- Sathiamoorthy, T., Balasubramanian, S., Rangasamy, S., Raja, S. and Asokan, S.A. (2011). Cervicotomy approach for dystocia due to imperfect cervical dilatation (ICD) in a cow. *J. Ind. Vet. Assoc.*, **9**: 46-46.