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Post-coital cervicovaginal injury in a thorough bred broodmare

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ABSTRACT

A thoroughbred broodmare suffered from lacerations in the cranial vagina during covering with a stallion and subsequently developed vaginitis. It was treated with parentral antibiotics for 3 days and dressing of the vaginal wound with Betadine solution for 14 days with an unevenful recovery.

Key words: Post coital cervico vaginal injury, mare

Coital injuries are common in maiden mares with imperforate hymen due to narrow vaginal orifice. In such mares attention should be paid during breeding. The covering should be done with a stallion that is not too strong physically. In older mares scarring and strictures of the vagina seconary to imflammatory condition, poor development of the caudal segment of the vagina, closed pyometra with vaginal lesions all lead to vaginal constriction (Dietz and Ekkehard, 1984). Forceful intromission of the stallion's penis in mares with such conditions can result in performation of the vaginal wall. In the present case laceration of the vaginal wall subsequent to coitus is reported.

Case Report: A maiden throughbred broodmare of 2 years age was brought to the clinics of veterinary gynaecology with a history of coitus with stallion and subsequent vaginal discharge. Vaginoscopy was done using vaginal speculum and a source of light. Lacerated wounds on the dorsal wall of cranial vagina and lateral wall of caudal vagina were seen. The wound on the wall of cranial vagina was deep and a flap of mucosa was hanging from it. There was pus in the wounds following flaring up of infection. The temperature, respiration and heart rates of the mare were 101°F, 41 beats/minute and 14 breaths per minute, respectively.

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Initially, Inj. Lemox (IBC) 2.5 g, 8 hrly for 3 days and Diclovet (Alembic) 10 ml. IM for 3 days were administered and the wound was dressed with Betadine solution (5%) 50 ml using wulsellum forceps and from 4th day onward dressing was done on alternate days. Animal was discharged on the 14th day with full healing of the wounds.

Laceration or rupture of the vagina during breeding of small maiden mares is not uncommon. Neely et al. (1983) reported that the stallion has long penile shaft and thrusts rapidly into the mare prior to "belling" of glans penis (expansion of glans penis). The lack of belling causes the distal end of penis to be more lancet in shape and is associated with causing injury to cranial vaginal wall, though the vagina has the property of distension to quite a good extent due to muscular layers, presence of fibroelastic tissues and longitudinal mucosal folds. Vagina is frequently bacteriologically sterile but Hinrich et al. (1988) reported that approximately 30% of mares have vaginal contamination with non pathogenic bacteria. Roberts (1971) stated that vagina appears to be more resistant, compared to cervix and uterus, to irritation and permanent damage caused by infections.

It is therefore concluded that all mares should be examined prior to covering with a stallion for the presence of vaginal lesions specially constriction to avoid coital injuries.

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