

## CASE REPORT

# Surgical Neutering of a Tom Cat during Clinical Camp

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Castration or neutering in male pet animals is generally not practiced unless there is any testicular pathology or as a contraceptive means (Howe *et al.*, 2000; Howe, 2015; Monin *et al.*, 2019). Kamdhenu University, Gandhinagar operates an ambulatory clinic at village Sanoda, Tehsil Dehgam, Dist Gandhinagar, Gujarat and also participates in animal health and infertility camps treating large (Kapadiya *et al.*, 2019; Brahmhatt *et al.*, 2020) and small animals (Mahesh *et al.*, 2016, Momin *et al.*, 2019). The pet canines presented in clinical camps are very less and felines are rarely brought for any medication or interventions in such camps. In this document such a rare case of 2 years old tom cat presented and successfully operated for neutering at the ambulatory clinic in a village without referring to secondary or tertiary set up is reported and discussed.

## HISTORY AND CLINICAL OBSERVATIONS

A two year old healthy non-descript tom cat with 4.23 kg body weight was presented at Ambulatory clinic during a clinical camp at village Sanoda, Gandhinagar, Gujarat. Owner of the tom cat wanted neutering to prevent unwanted breeding. The tom was dewormed and vaccinated against common infectious diseases. The owner was prior informed about overnight fasting of the tom cat. A complete physical examination was performed before the surgical procedure.

## TREATMENT AND DISCUSSION

The tom cat was pre-medicated with Atropine sulphate @ 0.03 mg/kg body weight and Xylazine @ 1.0 mg/kg body weight, intramuscularly. With aseptic precautions and under the intravenous anaesthesia (Xylazine @ 0.5 mg/kg and Ketamine 10 mg/kg), the testicles were surgically removed as per the standard surgical procedure (Howe *et al.*, 2000; Howe 2006; Root Kustritz, 2007). A 1.5 cm incision was made over the scrotum (Fig. 1). The testicular mass was directed towards the incision to facilitate dislodgement. Blood vessels in the thickened spermatic cord were ligated at the base of testicle using Vicryl 2-0 and checked for any bleeding before releasing the cord. The absorbable gelatin sponge was placed to obliterate the existing dead space. The closure of incision involved simple continuous subcutaneous suture using Vicryl 2-0, followed by simple interrupted skin sutures using Ethilon 2-0. Ceftriaxone @ 25 mg/ kg body weight for 5 days and

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Meloxicam @ 0.3 mg/ kg for 3 days were given. The owner was advised to provide a quiet place and keep the tom cat indoor to observe and restrict movement. The recovery was uneventful and sutures were removed after 12 days.

Earlier similar kind of operations performed during ambulatory clinics have been documented in pet dogs from the team of clinicians from same university (Mahesh *et al.*, 2016; Momin *et al.*, 2019). Concept of ambulatory clinics is integrated education program of Veterinary colleges in India



**Fig. 1:** Neutering of a tom cat during a clinical camp

to impart teaching and training to the undergraduate and postgraduate students at village level targeting maximum services and benefits to the dairy animals. In this case tom cat presented had just crossed the puberty which is preferred stage for neutering to avoid behavioral problems, or problems associated with mismating (Howe *et al.*, 2000; Howe, 2006, 2015).

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