

Short Communication

A RARE CASE OF FETAL MUMMIFICATION IN A GADDI DOE DUE TO UTERINE TORSION

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Received 22 September 2017, revised 25 October 2017

ABSTRACT: A Gaddi goat with the history of straining and unable to deliver the fetus was presented in the clinics of the college. On clinical examination, right side post cervical torsion was diagnosed and correction of uterine torsion was done using small plank. Following correction, one dead male kid showing fetal mummification was removed manually.

Key words: Gaddi Goat, Uterine Torsion, Mummified foetus, Dystocia.

Uterine torsion is twisting of uterus on its longitudinal axis. It is observed in almost in all species but more common in cattle and very less common in sheep and goat (Noakes *et al.* 2009). The dystocia due to uterine torsion is occasional in small ruminants and reported in few cases of kidding (Sharma *et al.* 2004, Sathiamoorthy *et al.* 2010, Bacha *et al.* 2015), lambing (Alagari *et al.* 2017) and accounts for only 1.8 percent of etiological factors in goats (Ali 2011). It is more common in doe having single pregnancy than twin pregnancy (Noakes *et al.* 2009). In general, management procedures involve simple rolling and/or caesarean section. Uterine torsion in cattle if occurs during early stage of gestation can cause death of the foetus inside the uterus and can lead to foetal mummification (Moore and Richardson 1995), but no record of foetal mummification due to uterine torsion has been reported in goats.

The present communication discusses a correction of uterine torsion in a goat by using a small plank (Modified Schaffer's method) and successful per vaginal delivery of mummified foetus.

Case history and Observations

A 1.5 years old primiparous Gaddi goat of about 4.5 months of pregnancy was brought with the history of straining for last 8 hours. No discharge was observed by the owner. No much history of the animal was known as she was maintained in Gaddi shepherd flock. On physical examination, animal was lethargic and was not taking feed for last 12 hours. Pervaginal examination revealed

a right side twist in vagina. The case was diagnosed as maternal dystocia due to right side post cervical uterine torsion. The case was previously handled by local pharmacist and animal was treated with Inj. Dexamethasone and Inj. Epidosin.

Treatment and Discussion

As animal was diagnosed as a case of right side uterine torsion, so it was casted on right lateral recumbency with both the forelegs and hind legs were held separately. A small wooden plank (3 feet long and 0.5 foot wide) was placed over the flank region in order to fix the foetus in uterus externally. Then the animal was slowly rolled towards the same side of torsion. After giving single roll torsion relieved. The cervix was fully dilated and foetus was palpable in breech presentation. A dead mummified male kid (Fig. 1) was delivered by traction after correction. After delivery, goat was treated with Inj. Dextrose Normal Saline 250ml and Ringer Lactate 250ml by i.v route, inj. Oxytocin 40 I.U., Inj. Meloxicam 1.5 ml @ 0.2 mg /kg body weight and Inj. Enrofloxacin 5ml @ 7.5 mg /kg body weight by intramuscular route.

The low incidence of uterine torsion in goats might be due to difference in the attachment of mesometrium at sub-lumbar rather than sub-ilial. The occurrence of uterine torsion is mainly during early part of second stage of labor or in the late part of the first stage of labor (Arthur *et al.* 2001) but rarely it may occur in mid gestation (Robert 1971) and can become a reason of fetal mummification in animals like cow (Robert 1971, Moore

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Fig. 1. Mummified Gaddi kid.

and Richardson 1995). Few reports of fetal mummification have been reported in goat (Tutt 1997, Lefebvre 2015) but no case of fetal mummification has been reported till date due to uterine torsion in Doe. In present case, uterine torsion which might have occurred during mid gestation remained unnoticed as the Gaddi doe was maintained by the shepherd in flock. Fetal death in uterus may not be accompanied with luteolysis and the changes presented in fetus were sunken eyeball, dry body with slight change in colour and shrunken placenta (Fig.1).

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***Cite this article as:** Kumar P, Saini P, Thakur A, Singh M, Sharma A (2017) A rare case of foetal mummification in a Gaddi doe due to uterine torsion. *Explor Anim Med Res* 7(2): 223-224.