

Surgical Management of Yoke Gall in a Bull

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Introduction

A yoke gall is a localized acute inflammation of the skin and subcutis on the neck of cattle due to constant friction caused by the yoke (Venugopalan, 2002). Yolk gall is one of the most common abscesses observed in draught purpose bullocks and buffalo bulls. The yolk gall is a common condition seen especially in those animals used for carting. Rough roads and extra heavy load are the main incriminating factors. (Tyagi and Singh, 2006).

Case History

An eight to ten year old bull was presented with the history of swelling on the dorsal region of neck from last 3-4 months. The swelling was non-fluctuating, hard to touch and immovable. It was painful that, animal could not work properly. The animal showed loss of body condition with reduced feed intake. The Case was previously treated with antibiotics and anti-inflammatory drugs but the swelling did not subside.

Clinical Examination

Clinical examination revealed a small sized circular swelling about 5-6 cm. in diameter on the neck. Therefore, based on the history and clinical examination the case was diagnosed as yoke gall and was decided to go for the surgical excision of the it.

Treatment

The surgical excision was performed in the lateral recumbency after taking due care. The operative site was cleaned, shaved and disinfected with Tinc. Iodine and the animal was deeply sedated with inj. Xylazine @ 0.1mg/kg and local infiltration was carried out with

lignocaine HCl. The round incision was taken about 1.5 cm away from the base to expose the growth. Then after taking complete round incision at the base the root of growth was located and legated with absorbable chromic catgut no.1. The growth was removed completely along with the capsule surrounding the site and the blood vessels were legated at every step. The skin suturing was done in simple interrupted pattern with nylon and Tr. benzene seal was applied over sutures.

Antibiotic Inj. 3 gm Amoxicillin and Cloxacillin @ 10 mg/kg b.wt. intramuscularly for five days to control secondary bacterial infection. Inj. Meloxicam @ 0.4 mg / kg b. wt. was administered intramuscularly regularly for five postoperative days. The fly repellent ointment was applied locally and the skin sutures were removed on the 10th postoperative day.

Result and Discussion

After surgical excision of the yoke gall, the working capacity of the animal was improved. The movements become easy, painless. The incision line over the neck, without disturbing the joint capsule proved very beneficial to restore the normal gait and early healing of surgical wound. Complete removal of the growth along with the capsule was necessary to avoid the recurrence of the growth. The bull showed improvement in the health status. No sign of recurrence was found at the site afterwards.

References

1. Venugopalan, A. (2002): Essentials of Veterinary Surgery 8th edi., pp. 112.
2. Tyagi, R.P.S. and Singh, J. (2006): Ruminant Surgery 8th edn. pp. 143.

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