

Botryomycosis in a Buffalo

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Introduction

Botryomycosis is a chronic suppurative infection characterized by granulomatous inflammatory lesions of generally cutaneous and less commonly of visceral origin due to involvement of bacterial pathogens: *Staphylococcus aureus* (Winslow, 1959). The occurrence of disease is relatively uncommon and its description is limited to only few case reports in human beings (Aronstain, 1936 ; Pavitran, 1988 and Kadyan, 1994) . However such information is not available in animals. Therefore, the present case is placed on record.

Case History

A three year old buffalo weighed approximately 350 kg was presented to the Teaching Veterinary Clinical Complex, Deesa with complaint of hard lesions over the face and neck without any sign of systemic illness since one year. The temperature, heart and respiration rates were well within the physiological limit.

Clinically, the lesions were tenderous, multiple and cutaneous type spreaded over the head and neck regions (Figure-1). The exploratory examination of lesions revealed presence of thick creamy pus which

was collected in a sterile glass beaker. The pus was subjected to cultural isolation of organisms and antibiotic sensitivity test (Figure-2).

Treatment manouvers: The protruded part of most prominent nodules was incised from its base under xylazine sedation @ dose of 0.1 mg/kg. The exudate was removed and sinus tract flushed with 1% solution of tincture iodine. The tract was packed subsequently with sterile gauge pieces of suitable size. Oxytetracycline, which was found most sensitive among other antibiotics on *in- vitro* sensitivity test, was infiltrated over the gauge piece. The similar treatment was continued for 5 days and other nodules / lesions were treated in the similar manner following healing of previous one. The parenteral administration of oxytetracycline @ dose of 5 mg / kg was also attempted for 5 days.

Results and Discussion

The nodules of variable size between 1.5-2.5 centimeter were present over the skin of face and neck including ears in the present case. The lesions were painless and tenderous in nature which were suggestive of subcutaneous tissue involvement. Winslow (1959) documented two forms of botryomycosis: cutaneous and pulmonary. The presence of multiple sinuses besides single or multiple abscess of skin and subcutaneous



Figure-1. Affected Buffalo Showing Lesions of Disease Over Head and Neck.



Figure-2. Antibiotic Sensitivity

tissue additionally in cutaneous form of disease have been described by the author. In the present case, the characteristics of nodules with regard to body integuments, pus contents confirmed the cutaneous form of disease which is an agreement with the earlier findings of Inamdar and Nagalotimath (1994). Further, the lesions of disease have been reported usually unresponsive to the medicinal therapy; as a result the patients are intervened for cure by the surgical approach. In the present case, also, removal of the pus from nodules was followed immediately by local and parenteral administration of most sensitive antibiotic which resulted in to complete recovery at faster rate.

Summary

A rare case of botryomycosis with its typical

lesions abundantly on face, neck and ears is documented in the buffalo. The treatment consisting of surgical intervention followed by local and parenteral administration of most sensitive antibiotic has also been discussed.

References

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