

Sub Conjunctival Abscess in Crossbred Calves

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Sub conjunctival abscess is a relatively rare condition of ocular affection which usually occurs in eyes with previous history of trauma or surgical intervention (Riono et al 1999). It could be caused by infective organisms like *Moraxiella*, *Mycoplasma*, *Streptococcus*, *Corynebacterium* and characterized by kerato conjunctivitis, blepharospasm, lacrymation with no previous report of trauma (kumar and Aprajita 2012). This report describes the management of subconjunctival abscess and their long term follow up

Case History and Observation

Fifteen Jersey cross and five Holstein Friesian cross calves with the age group ranging from 5 to 10 months were presented to the Veterinary Dispensary, S.Melapatti, Madurai, Tamilnadu with the history of projecting nodule in the sub conjunctival area of either in upper or lower eyelids, lacrimation and no previous history of ocular surgery. On clinical examination, eye reflexes were normal except a well defined projecting nodule underlying a primary pterigium with mild congestion in subconjunctiva of upper eyelids in fifteen cases (Fig.1) and of lower eye lids in five cases and a thick yellowish white exudates noticed on aspiration. Based on the location and nature of the exudate, it was diagnosed

as subconjunctival abscess.



Fig. 1 subconjunctival abscess in the upper eyelid

Treatment and Discussion

All the calves with subconjunctival abscess were subjected for surgical intervention. All the animals were treated with 1 ml of prednisolone subconjunctivally one day prior to excision in order to reduce the postoperative swelling. Animals were restrained in standing position and eyes were cleaned with 0.9% normal saline. Under auriculopalpebral and retrobulbar nerve block with 2% lignocaine hydrochloride (xylocaine) the nodules were excised very gently from eyelids (Fig 2).

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Fig. 2 Conjunctiva after excision of subconjunctival abscess

Yellowish inspissated pus were noticed in the excised nodules. The minor bleeding was controlled by topical application of adrenaline and attempted for control of major bleeding by placing the sterile tamponade in the eyes after washing with normal saline. The tamponade was removed one day after the operation. Postoperatively the animals were treated with Inj. Enrofloxacin @ 5 mg/kg body weight and Meloxicam @ 0.2mg/kg body weight for three days along with topical application of streptomycin cortisol ointment for 15 days. Topical and systemic therapy favoured speedy healing of wound. All the calves recovered uneventfully with no recurrence. The present findings were in concurrence with Maskin (1993) and Hwang et al 2002. But Kumar and Aprajita (2012) reported the topical antibiotic therapy alone was sufficient enough to treat this condition. In the present study, the cause could be environmental pollutants on grazing during summer without any previous history of ocular surgery. But Kivlin and Wilson (1995) reported that ocular surgery was the main cause of subconjunctival abscess.

Summary

Sub conjunctival abscess in calves were treated surgically with topical and systemic antibiotic therapy and recovered uneventfully.

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