

## Uterine Torsion in a Full Term Pregnant Heifer Corrected by Caesarean Section under Field Condition

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### Introduction

Rotation of pregnant uterus along its long axis, clockwise or anti clockwise, is one of the commonest causes of dystocia. (Sloss and Dufty, 1980). Factors such as increasing instability of the growing pregnant uterus, the disposition of broad ligaments and excessive fetal weight are the likely predisposing factors (Pearson, 1971 and Frazer, 1996). Approximately 30% of uterine torsions happen in heifers and 70% in cows (Roberts, 1971 and Pearson, 1971). However, heifers are more at risk of dystocia than are cows (Arthur *et al.*, 1996). Hence, a case of dystocia due to uterine torsion in a HF cross bred heifer corrected by cesarian section is reported.

### History and Observations

A HF crossbred heifer of around 3 year age and full term pregnant animal was presented to the dispensary (Reddihalli, Madhugiri Tq ) with the history of mucus discharge from vulva, straining, anorexia and slight tympany. Upon per vaginal/rectal examination it was confirmed a case of pre-cervical torsion of >3600 and could not be relieved by routine manual method and hence decided for caesarean section.

### Surgical procedure:

Dystocia in cattle can be relieved by different obstetric methods, including the caesarean operation. Nowadays, the caesarean operation is one of the most common surgical procedures performed by veterinarians in cattle practice, and is considered as a routine obstetric technique ( Vermunt, 2008).

The animal was given epidural anesthesia (Lignocaine HCl 2%, 8ml) at first inter-coccygeal space. Later, animal was casted on right lateral recumbency and paramedian site was surgically prepared. (Campbell and Fubini, 1990).

A sufficiently large skin incision was made and all the layers of abdominal wall were incised. Omentum was pulled cranially to expose gravid uterus which was incised at its greater curvature between rows of caruncles. The fetal membranes were incised and fetus was removed. Uterine incision was closed by Lambert technique (chromic catgut No:2) and torsion was corrected.

The abdominal muscles were sutured in routine pattern by simple interrupted suturing method (chromic catgut No:2) and skin incision was closed using cotton thread ( Newman and Anderson, 2005).

Post-operative care: The animal was treated post-operatively for 7 days with OTC-20mg/kg, Meloxicam-0.5mg/kg, CPM-10ml I/M and the animal recovered uneventfully. Skin sutures were removed after 10 days.

### Summary

Dystocia due to uterine torsion in heifer successfully corrected by cesarian section.

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