

Uterine torsion with piometra in bitch case study

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Abstract

This study was made on a 7 years old Canish bitch. She was consulted because she acused severe changes in general condition with abdominal distension, black vaginal, mopish, decrease of appetite and polydipsia. The pyometra diagnosis was made after corroboration the data of clinical and echografical date. The ovarianhysterectomy was an optimal solution for saving the femeles life and confirmed the existence of one uterine torsion of over 360°, wich indeed affected the pyometra simptomathology.

Key words: Bitch, Pyometra, Uterine torsion, Ovariohysterectomy.

Introduction

The torsion is characterized by the twisting of uterus around its longitudinal axis. This affection, which is not commonly seen in carnivores, may concern the whole uterus or only certain segments of the uterus. The modification may also interes the cervix (post-cervical torsion) or only the uterine horns, in which case the topography of the uterus remains normal (ante-cervical torsion).

The torsion may have different degrees: 45°, 90°, 180°, 270°, 360°, some authors affirm that in 10% of the cases the torsion is 90°, in 52% 180°, in 20% of cases is 270° and in 9% of cases is 360° or over 360°.

As frequency depending on the species, the uterine torsion is more commonly encountered in cow, but it has been also diagnosticated in sheep, goat, mare and carnivores (2, 5, 6, 7).

The perturbations in the genital haemo-dynamic attract also morpho-patologic modifications of the uterus: infiltration of the uterine walls, necrosis at the level of the torsion, adherences, rupture of the uterus or its complete section (in 360° torsion or over 360°), death of the foetus or fetal emphysema. (1,3,4).

In carnivores, the rupture of the uterus consecutive the torsion has as consequence the liberation of the content in abdominal cavity.(1, 3)

The case study represents the torsion of the uterus with pyometer in a bitch Caniche breed, the diagnosis of pyometer being established by ultrasound examination. The affection was repaired surgically throughout ovariohysterectomy operation.

Material and method

The patient, a 7 years old Caniche bitch, was presented for consult because it presented a exaggerated distention of the abdomen in the past 4 months. The owner affirms that the general state has started to modify once the abdomen started to increase in volume manifested by the apparition of dark-skinned vaginal discharges, slight state of depression, lake of appetite and polydipsia.

The clinical exam of the patient was effectuated throughout inspection and palpation, ascertaining the presence of a depression state, sad facies, chocolate-like vaginal discharges, distended abdomen, firm consistence especially in the right side (Fig no 1 and 2).

The rectal temperature was 39,2°C, pulse 116 and respiratory frequency 26r/min.

Consecutive this exam the pyometra was suspected, but for confirmation an ecographic exam was performed. The exam was effectuated with a convex probe of 5,0 MHz, which revealed the presence of 2 tubular formations filled with liquid in the right and second abdominal area which represented in fact the uterine horns filled with hemorrhagic-purulent content (fig. no. 3).

Correlating the anamnetic data with the results from the clinic and ultrasound exam the conclusion was that the pyometra diagnosis was certain and there was not any suspicions regarding the existence of uterine torsion.



Fig No 1. and 2. Bitch, 7 years old, clinical aspect. Uterus torsion whit pyometra



Fig no 3. Ultrasound view of the uterus with pyometer and torsion. 5,0 MHz probe.
The purulent hypoecogenic content with suspended particles is observed



Fig No 4. A. Bitch, 7 years old,
Uterus torsion over 360 degrees

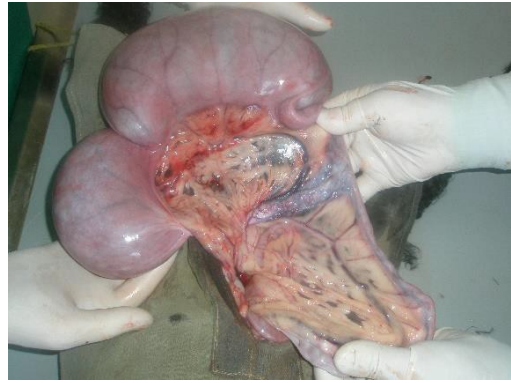


Fig No 4. B. The appearance of the uterus with
a pyometer after distortion

Results and discussions

Because the general state of the patient was modified and the dimensions of the uterus with pathologic content was increased it was decided to perform the ovario-hysterectomy operation.

Neuroleptanaesthesia was utilized by the administration of intramuscular Xylazine, during the first stage and Ketamine in the second stage., at a 15 minutes interval.

The female was restrained in dorsal position with the posterior members in caudal position and fixed in abduction so that the operation zone would be more convenient and comfortable for the surgeon. After this stage the operation of ovario-hysterectomy was performed at the level of the median zone of the abdomen, 1 cm from the umbilicus.

During the exteriorization of the uterus a torsion of over 360 degrees was observed (fig no. 4 A and B).

The closing of the abdominal cavity was effected throughout a bi-level suture at the level of the abdominal incision: muscle-peritoneal with catgut no.1, in continuous wire and skin with surgical silk no.5 in separated wires.

Conclusions

1. The uterine torsion was favored by the purulent collection from the level of the uterus which determined the distension of the large ligaments determining the rotation around its longitudinal axis.
2. The diagnosis of pyometra was established by corroborating the data from the clinical, ecographic exam without any suspicions regarding the existence of the uterine torsion.
3. Taking into consideration the age of the female and its clinical state it was decided to perform the ovario-hysterectomy operation.
4. The opening of the abdominal cavity revealed the existence of the torsion.
5. The ovario-hysterectomy represented the optimum solution for to remediate the affection and save the life of the female.

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