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CASE REPORT

SCROTAL ABSCESS IN A RAM AND ITS SURGICAL MANAGEMENT

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ABSTRACT

Scrotal abscess in a 4 yr old ram and its successful surgical management has been reported.

INTRODUCTION

Scrotal ablation means complete removal of the scrotum. Since the scrotum covers the gonads in intact animals, orchidectomy is also performed with scrotal ablation. The present paper describes a case of scrotal abscess in a ram and its surgical management by performing scrotal ablation.

History & Clinical Observations

A four year old ram presented to the Dept. of Surgery & Radiology, College of Veterinary Science, Tirupati with a history of scrotal enlargement, anorectic, dull, restlessness and presented broad stepping gait with abduction of hind limbs since one week. On clinical examination of the scrotum, the animal evinced pain with notable enlargement of the right hemiscrotum (Figure 1). On palpation, the swelling was doughy in nature with thickening of spermatic cord. Aspiration of the contents revealed pus and it was diagnosed as a case of scrotal abscess. Under aseptic conditions, a nick incision was given at the dependent part of scrotum to drain out the purulent material completely (Figure 2).

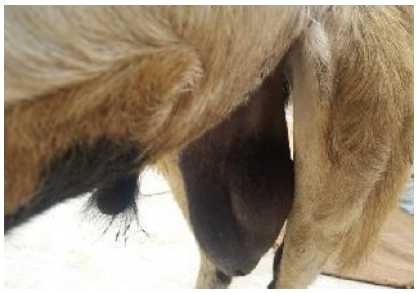

Figure 1 Enlarged Right Hemiscrotum

The scrotal cavity was thoroughly irrigated with potassium permanganate solution and a povidone seton was placed. The animal was treated with antibiotics and analgesics for 7 days and daily dressing was done for 10 days with no improvement. Then, the case was diagnosed as chronic scrotal abscess and was advised to perform ablation of scrotum.

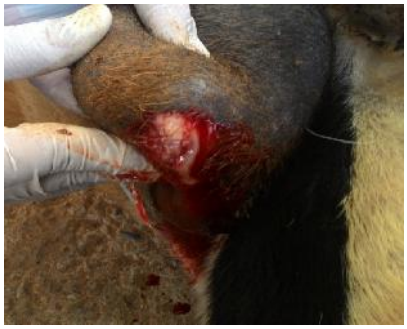

Figure 2 Drainage of purulent material from right hemiscrotum

TREATMENT AND DISCUSSION

The animal was sedated with xylazine @ 0.05 mg/kg b.wt intramuscularly and 2% lignocaine hydrochloride was administered as ring block at the base of the scrotum. Under aseptic conditions, the testicles along with scrotal skin were excised through elliptical shaped skin incision was made at the base of the scrotum. The vascular structures were ligated and removed. Trauma to the urethra and penis was avoided during dissection. After ablation of the scrotum (Figure 3), the skin was closed in the routine manner (Veena and Bharahi, 2014; and Dandge *et al*., 1999).

Post operatively, the animal was administered with Inj. streptomycin- penicillin @ 2g i.m for 5 days and Inj. Melonex @ 0.5 mg/kg i.m. for 3 days and daily wound dressing was carried out with Lorexane ointment. Skin sutures were removed on 12th post- operative day and the animal made uneventful recovery. Scrotal abscesses are the most important genital abscesses in rams (Smith 2008). Shearing injuries and penetrating wounds of scrotum may develop into abscess under unhygienic or warm and humid conditions. Scrotal

abscess results in permanent unsoundness but radical treatment may prevent involvement of deeper tissues (Sargison 2009). In chronic conditions, total ablation of scrotum may be advised to prevent infection and save the life of the animal.

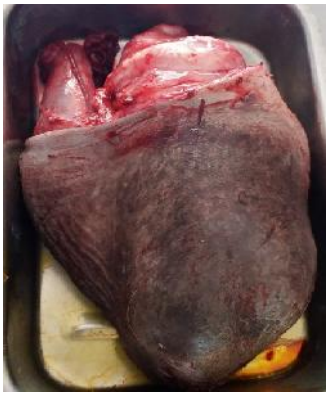

Figure 3 Ablated Scrotum

Summary

A case of chronic scrotal abscess in a ram and its surgical management has been reported and discussed.

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