

INCIDENCE OF INTUSSUSCEPTION AND ITS SURGICAL MANAGEMENT IN DOGS - REVIEW OF 15 CASES*

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Intussusception is one of the common ailments of canine gastrointestinal tract, which might result in partial or complete obstruction of intestine. If unattended this condition can result in death of the patient. Clinical cases of intussusception presented to the Madras Veterinary College Hospital from 1997 to 1998, its incidence, surgical treatment and outcome are reported in this article.

Materials and methods

Fifteen clinical cases of intussusception constituted material for study. All the animals were premedicated with atropine sulphate² at the rate of 0.045 mg/kg body weight I/m and triflupromazine³ at the rate of 1 mg/kg body weight I/V. Anaesthesia was induced and maintained with thiopental⁴ with an average dose rate of 12.5 mg/kg body weight by intravenous route. Caudal mid ventral site was used for laprotomy in all the animals.

Results and discussion

The case details, method of treatment and outcome are presented in the Table. The average age of the animals affected with intussusception was 2.97 ± 0.47

months (ranging from 1 to 7 months). These results suggest pups are commonly affected with intussusception. Peristaltic movements of intestine are increased generally due to parvoviral infection, enteritis, parasitic infestation or laxative effects of milk (Single *et al.*, 1996). These hyperperistaltic movements might result in intussusception.

Male to female ratio was 10:5, suggesting higher incidence in male than female. These results are contrary to those reported by Levitt and Bauer (1992). Variation among the clients in presenting cases to the hospital might have influenced on the sex ratio.

The breeds of dog affected were Doberman (4/15), Great Dane (3/15), Non-descript (3/15), German Shepherd Dog (2/15), Pomeranian (2/15) and Labrador (1/16). Breed distribution in Chennai city might have influenced on the higher incidence of intussusception in Doberman.

Types of intussusception seen were Jejunoileac (4/15) ileocolic (9/15), and ileocaecocolic (2/15). Ileac portion of small intestine is highly prone for

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Table. Case details and method of treatment for intussusception in dogs

Sl. No.	Age (in months)	Sex	Breed	Location of Lesion and etiology	Non-surgical or surgical technique	Outcome
1	6	Male	Labrador	Ileocolic	Resection and anastomosis	Recovered
2	2	Male	Doberman	Jejunioleac	Resection and anastomosis	Recovered
3	3	Male	Non-descript	Ileocolic	Resection and anastomosis	Recovered
4	2	Female	Non-descript	Ileocolic	Gentle traction and milking of intussuscepted portion	Recovered
5	1	Male	Great Dane	Ileocaecocolic	Resection and anastomosis	Recovered
6	2	Female	Doberman	Ileocolic	Resection and anastomosis	Recovered
7	3	Male	Great Dane	Ileocaecocolic	Resection and anastomosis	Recovered
8	1.5	Female	German Shepherd Dog	Ileocolic	Resection and anastomosis	Recovered
9	2	Female	Pomeranian	Ileocolic	Resection and anastomosis	Recovered
10	7	Male	Doberman	Jejunioleac	Gentle traction and milking of intussuscepted portion	Recovered
11	4	Male	German Shepherd Dog	Ileocolic	Resection and anastomosis	Recovered
12	5	Male	Doberman	Ileocolic	Resection and anastomosis	Recovered
13	3	Female	Non-descript	Jejunioleac	Gentle traction and milking of intussuscepted portion	Recovered
14	2	Male	Great Dane	Ileocolic	Resection and anastomosis	Recovered
15	1	Male	Pomeranian	Jejunioleac	Resection and anastomosis	Recovered

intussusception owing to lack of proper omental support and free mobility. These results are in agreement with those of Mullen *et al.* (1992)

In 12 cases laparotomy and resection of non-viable segment and anastomosis of viable segment and in three cases

laparotomy and gentle traction and milking of intussuscepted segment were carried out. All the animals had uneventful recovery. These results indicate that if intussusception is diagnosed early, it could be managed successfully by surgical means.

Summary

Pups below the age of three months were commonly affected with intussusception. The incidence of intussusception was two times more in males than females. Doberman breed was commonly affected with intussusception. Ileocolic intussusception was common than other types. All the animals had uneventful recovery by surgical correction.

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