

Short Communication

INGUINAL HERNIA IN A MALE DOG - A CASE REPORT

Incidence of inguinal hernia is not uncommon in bitches but is infrequent in male dogs (North, 1959). Most cases of inguinal hernia are congenital in male dog, whereas acquired in bitches (Fox, 1963). The breeds like Basset hound, Cairn terrier, Pekingese and West high land white terrier have been reported to have greater risk of inguinal hernia (Hayes, 1974). Herniation of intestinal loops with prostatic enlargement and cystic distension of anal sac (Menon *et al.*, 1961) and that of omentum and small intestine (Marwah and Kukarni, 1977) have been reported in dogs. The present paper reports a case of incarcerated inguinal hernia in a male Dachshund dog and its surgical correction.

Case history and observations

A one and a half year old male, Dachshund dog was brought to the Department of Surgery with a history of frequent vomition and constipation, and not responding to routine medicinal management. The dog exhibited signs of dehydration, arched back, tucked up abdomen and tenderness of abdomen.

On examination a unilateral swelling of left scrotum with doughy consistency was noticed. There was extension of the swelling cranial to the scrotum upto the level of inguinal ring. Local manipulation of the swelling elicited pain but it was not inflamed. A lateral radiograph of the abdomen revealed presence of gas in the bowels extending upto the pelvic area

suggestive of bowel obstruction. The case was diagnosed as inguinal hernia and surgical correction was advised.

Surgical correction

The ventral abdominal area of the left side of prepuce was prepared aseptically. Triflupromazine hydrochloride¹ 10 mg was administered i/m as premedication and the animal was anaesthetised with thiopentone sodium² 5% solution i/v. Laparotomy was performed with the animal in dorsal recumbency through a paramedian incision, 5 cm in length on the left side of penis. A portion of ileum was found herniated into the left inguinal canal. Distension of ileal segment made it difficult to relieve the hernia by traction on the bowel and dilatation of hernial ring. Hence, the skin incision was extended towards the neck of scrotum to reach the external inguinal ring and tunica vaginalis. The herniated portion of ileum was firmly adherant to the tunica vaginalis. The tunica vaginalis was incised and the adhesions were gently released with an artery forceps. The herniated portion of ileum was reduced into the abdominal cavity. The ileal segment was not normal in colour, and considering its questionable viability, about 3 cm length of it was excised and the healthy ends were anastomosed using vicryl (3-0). Sutured the incision on tunica vaginalis with continuous sutures using (2-0) braided silk.

¹ Siquil - Triflupromazine hydrochloride, Sarabhai Chemicals, Baroda, India

² Intraval sodium - Thiopentone sodium, May and Baker, India Ltd., Bombay

The abdominal wound was closed in routine manner.

Rintose³ 300 ml and polybion⁴ 2 ml was administered intravenous, and Ampicillin⁵ 500 mg was given intramuscular. Ampicillin syrup was advised orally for the next five days. The dog started consuming milk on the second post-operative day and became normal in habits subsequently. The skin sutures were removed on 10th day. The animal was castrated by open covered method to prevent recurrence of hernia. The dog had an uncomplicated recovery.

The exact etiology of inguinal hernia is unknown. However, heredity, various stresses such as pregnancy, obesity and mammary tumour are considered responsible in exacerbating a hernia in dogs (North, 1959). According to Fox (1963) it is an inherited disease in young pups, the syndrome disappearing with age as the relative size of the ring decreased and fibrosis and strengthening of linea alba progressed. In the absence of history and considering the age of the animal, it was presumed that herniation in the present case could have occurred due to unusual form of exercise.

Summary

A case of incarcerated inguinal hernia in a one and half year old male Dachshund dog

and its successful surgical correction is reported.

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³ Wockhardt Veterinary Ltd., Bombay

⁴ Merck (India) Ltd., Bombay

⁵ Roscillin - Ampicillin Sodium, Ranbaxy Laboratories Ltd., Dewas (MP)