

Short Communication

ACUTE MASTITIS IN A FEMALE DOG: A CASE REPORT

Mastitis, though quite common in dairy cattle and milch goats, is not so frequent in the female dog. Available literature revealed only meager reports of acute mastitis and hence a case of acute mastitis in a mongrel female dog is reported.

Case History and Clinical Observations

A nine year old mongrel female dog, weighing 14 kg was brought to the out-patient medical ward of the Madras Veterinary College Hospital with the history of weakness and hot swollen mammary gland. The animal had whelped 5 days back and was febrile, in lateral recumbency with signs of septic shock. On Palpation, the swelling on the left fore teats were hard and cripitating. Purulent fluid was noticed in the swollen gland. Animal vomited twice in the morning and had profound depression, rapid heart rate and elevation of body temperature (41°C).

Leucogram revealed leucocytosis (22,000/cm) with neutrophilia. Milk aspirated from the gland was subjected to culture and antibiotic sensitivity. *Staphylococcus* was identified, in the culture and the organism was sensitive to neomycin, streptomycin and tetracycline but resistant to chloramphenicol, pencillin, ampicillin and gentamicin.

Awaiting the results of antibiogram, the animal was initially treated with parenteral ampicillin, five per cent dextrose saline, dexamethasone and B-complex for the first two days. Since no improvement was observed tetracycline was administered as per the results of the culture and sensitivity test. In the next two days the animal showed marked improvement and hence the same antibiotics was continued for five days. By that time the swelling of the gland was substantially reduced into normal size with normal secretions.

Staphylococcus mastitis is the commonest form of mastitis in bitch (Hasegawa *et al.*, 1993) and infection during early lactation often results in the appearance of acute mastitis. Dernell and Craggier (1992) reported clinical signs similar to the present observations.

Summary

A case of acute mastitis in a mongrel bitch is reported. The pathogen identified was found resistant to most of the commonly used antibiotics.

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References

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