1951

Post-Parturient Hemoglobinuria

John Babcock
Iowa State College

Follow this and additional works at: https://lib.dr.iastate.edu/iowastate_veterinarian

Part of the Large or Food Animal and Equine Medicine Commons, and the Veterinary Physiology Commons

Recommended Citation
Available at: https://lib.dr.iastate.edu/iowastate_veterinarian/vol13/iss3/12

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at Iowa State University Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Iowa State University Veterinarian by an authorized editor of Iowa State University Digital Repository. For more information, please contact digirep@iastate.edu.
Post-Parturient Hemoglobinuria.

A 5-year old Guernsey cow was admitted to the Iowa State College Veterinary Clinic on Mar. 4, 1951, with a history of a sudden drop in milk production a week following freshening, which occurred on Feb. 20, 1951. She had been on a good ration, and was a high producing cow. When received at the clinic she showed severe depression, anorexia, hemoglobinuria and icterus. Her body temperature was 103.2° F., pulse 90, and her respiratory rate was 30.

Further observation, while she was in the clinic, showed the urine to be dark red in color and low in specific gravity—no blood clots or tissue debris were noted in it. A blood sample, taken for red and white blood cell counts, and for hemoglobin determination, was very dark red in color and was so badly hemolysed immediately after withdrawal that it could not be used—it was negative for bacteria on culturing. The feces were passed in small amounts—being soft, very dark colored, foul-smelling, and contained large quantities of bile. Rumination was weak or absent throughout the course of the disease. Rectal palpation showed the ureters to be of normal size.

The left kidney was thought to be slightly enlarged, but the lobulations were distinct.

Four grams of aureomycin hydrochloride with sodium glycinate were given intravenously on the third day. The following day her temperature had dropped to 100° F., and pulse to 78. No other improvements were noted. The aureomycin was repeated.

On March 8, the patient was down and was unable to rise. Urination was not observed. She continued to show inappetence, and did not drink any water. A transfusion of 1000 cc of citrated whole blood was given intravenously.

No improvement was noted on the following day. The patient was very cachectic. A pint of molasses in about 3 gal. of warm water was given by stomach tube. The blood transfusion was repeated as before.

On Mar. 10, she seemed to be more alert than before, and was observed to make chewing movements. Ruminal fluid, obtained from a normal cow, was given along with the molasses and the blood transfusion. Examination of the mucous membranes showed her to be very anemic. Her urine was observed—the first for several days. It was apparently free of hemoglobin.
Seven days after admittance, the patient was seen to eat some hay. She was standing for the first time in three days, but she was very weak. The previous treatment of whole blood and molasses was repeated.

With careful nursing and repeated blood transfusions this cow went on to make a complete recovery.

John Babcock '52

Metastatic Squamous Cell Carcinoma in a Hereford Cow. On Jan. 4th, 1951 a 12-year-old Hereford cow was admitted to Stange Memorial Clinic with a history of having had what was thought to be infectious keratitis of the right eye. The condition was not treated and became infested with screw-worms. The animal was gradually becoming emaciated.

Examination showed the right eye to be completely absent. There were multiple fistulous tracts ventral to the right eye which emitted a sweetish, carious smelling exudate. The right maxillary and mandibular regions showed marked enlargements. Auscultation revealed an apparent cardiac enlargement and vesicular sounds were absent from several areas of the lungs. Palpation revealed large, soft, fluctuating swellings on the maxilla and mandible and enlarged cervical lymph nodes. The animal was gradually becoming emaciated.

Examination showed the right eye to be completely absent. There were multiple fistulous tracts ventral to the right eye which emitted a sweetish, carious smelling exudate. The right maxillary and mandibular regions showed marked enlargements. Auscultation revealed an apparent cardiac enlargement and vesicular sounds were absent from several areas of the lungs. Palpation revealed large, soft, fluctuating swellings on the maxilla and mandible and enlarged cervical lymph nodes. The animal was gradually becoming emaciated.

A diagnosis of squamous cell carcinoma with metastasis was made, based on the breed and age of the animal, the history and results of the examination. Euthanasia was recommended.

Euthanasia was performed on Jan. 12, 1951 and the diagnosis was confirmed by post mortem findings. A tumor-like mass of tissue containing numerous abscesses extended from the anterior portion of the right orbital cavity posteriorly to its axis and ventrally approximately 15 cm. The neoplasm filled the orbital cavity and extended along the right oculomotor nerve into the cranial cavity. The tissue was firm and white in consistency. The retropharyngeal and cervical lymph nodes were filled with neoplastic tissue. Metastasis had taken place to the lungs, bronchial lymph nodes, kidneys, and visceral pleura.

C. D. Hinkley '52

Cresol Sensitivity in a Palomino. On March 10, 1950, a 2-year-old Palomino mare was admitted to Stange Memorial Clinic for treatment of a wire cut on the lateral surface of the right front fetlock.

A blood sample was drawn and taken to the clinic laboratory for analysis. The total red cell count was 5,550,000, the total white count was 8,200 and the hemoglobin was 61.5 percent or 7.63 grams, which was quite low.

Three days later the patient was given 40 grams of chloral hydrate via stomach tube and placed on the operating table in the left lateral recumbency. The area around the wound was shaved and painted with strong tincture of iodine. The digital nerves of the right front foot were blocked with 2 percent procaine hydrochloride. The exuberant granulations were removed with a combination of blunt and sharp dissection. The wound was dusted with air-slaked lime and boric acid in equal parts and wrapped with a sterile gauze pack. Fifteen-hundred units of tetanus antitoxin were injected subcutaneously.

The animal was observed to have lice and on March 29, she was sponged with a one percent solution of cresol. This treatment did not remove all the lice, so on April 13, the horse was again led to the stocks and bathed. This solution was a 2 percent solution of cresol which usually is not toxic. Marked cutaneous reactions were apparent immediately. The excess solution was wiped off at once. The patient was placed in the stocks to dry.

In about 5 minutes the patient appeared weak and incoordinated, the lips were slack, the pupils dilated and she appeared quite depressed, going down a minute or so later.

Iowa State College Veterinarian