

RECTAL PROLAPSE IN CAMELS (*Camelus dromedarius*): CLINICAL FINDINGS AND TREATMENT OUTCOMES

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ABSTRACT

The present study described the clinical presentation of rectal prolapse and evaluated the treatment outcomes in 20 dromedary camels. Factors associated with incidence and clinical findings of rectal prolapse were recorded and rectal reduction, mucosal resection and amputation were evaluated as a surgical intervention. Out of 20 studied camels, incidence of rectal prolapse in Mejhem camels (55%) was higher than in Wadeh (20%), Asfar (15%) and Ashaal camels (10%). Camels of 4-10 years of age exhibited more rectal prolapse (80%) than the other age group (0-3 years) (16 vs 4). Moreover, male camels showed a higher incidence (65%) (13 vs 7) of rectal prolapse compared to females (35%, n=7). Rectal prolapse occurs more due to mating (50%) than diarrhoea (25%) or chronic cough (15%) or pregnancy (10%). At 3 weeks postoperatively, the rectal prolapse was reduced in comparison with pretreated (18 vs 2). However, only 2 cases had recurrence of the rectal prolapse. In conclusion, our results recommend reduction, mucosal resection as well as amputation as a viable and effective treatment for rectal prolapse in camels.

Key words: Camels, clinical findings, prolapse, rectum