

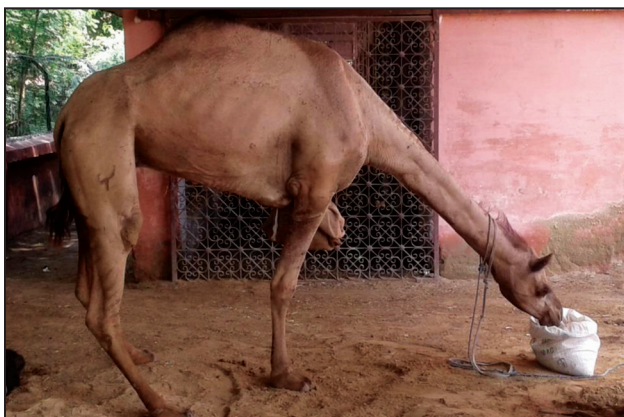
*Short Communication*

# AMPUTATION OF FORE LIMB FOLLOWING COMPOUND FRACTURE OF RADIUS ULNA IN A FEMALE CAMEL

G. Koli, M. Shandilya, K. Goyal, Ramveer Singh, S. Gharu,  
Sakar Palecha, S.K. Jhirwal and T.K. Gahlot

Department of Veterinary Surgery and Radiology, College of Veterinary and  
Animal Science, Rajasthan University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Bikaner-334001, India

A 9 year old female camel was presented to Teaching Veterinary Clinical Complex, College of Veterinary and Animal Science, Bikaner with a history of accident causing compound fracture of left radius-ulna just above the knee joint along with a wound over the fracture site. Clinical examination revealed the compound fracture of distal end of left radius-ulna (Fig 1). There was complete loss of sensation with coldness of distal region of the foot. Extensive necrosis of tissue with foul odour was observed at the fractured site. Limb amputation was done at distal end of radius-ulna bone above the fracture site under xylazine sedation (0.4 mg/kg body weight, intravenously). The skin, subcutaneous tissue and muscles were incised to the bone. The bone was amputated by a wire saw. The haemorrhage was checked by ligating the vessels. The muscles were sutured in continuous suture pattern using chromic catgut no. 2 to cover the bony stump and skin was closed in horizontal mattress pattern using silk no. 2. Postoperatively (Oxytetracycline @ 10 mg/kg body weight, for 5 days and Meloxicam @ 0.4 mg/



**Fig 1.** She camel was able to stand on three limbs without any support and assistance 5 day after leg amputation. Animal showed uneventful recovery and returned to normal feeding.

kg body weight, were given intramuscularly for 3 days and vitamin B<sub>1</sub>, B<sub>6</sub> and B<sub>12</sub> 20 ml intramuscularly for 7 days. Antiseptic dressing on every alternate day along with proper bandaging was done for 2 weeks. Skin sutures were removed after 2 weeks. The female camel showed remarkable ability to walk on remaining 3 limbs without any assistance and complication (Fig 1).

Fracture is a common surgical affection in camel mostly traumatic in origin. The most common fracture is that of horizontal rami of mandible in camels followed by fractures of metatarsus and metacarpus (Gahlot and Chauhan, 1994). The fracture of radius-ulna is not very common (Siddiqui and Telfah, 2010). The external fixation by plaster of paris cast does not provide adequate immobilisation due to inability to incorporate the elbow joint in the cast (Siddiqui and Telfah, 2010). The primary goal should always be to save the limb but if it is not possible, limb amputation can be performed (Desrochers *et al*, 2014). The limb amputation is a drastic treatment in untreatable cases of fracture. Kumar *et al* (2013) performed limb amputation in 2 camels suffering from compound fracture along with gangrene of distal part of metacarpus.

## References

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SEND REPRINT REQUEST TO G. KOLI [email: dr.gkoli2015@gmail.com](mailto:dr.gkoli2015@gmail.com)

### Glimpses of International Camel Conference, Inner Mongolia, China



Delegates with Prof Jirimutu who attires traditional Mongolian dress



An artistic Bactrian camel chariot during Bactrian camel festival was important attraction



Delegates respecting National Anthem during inaugural session



Bactrian camel caravan during Camel Festival inaugural session



Dias and dignitaries during inaugural session



Depiction of Bactrian camel as a super market. Camel products were displayed through a cut out window of Bactrian camel



### Glimpses of International Camel Conference, Inner Mongolia, China



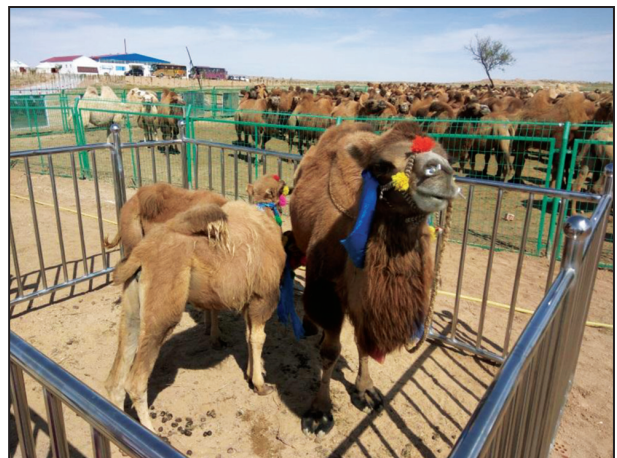
Marketing of camel meat products in attractive packings



Delegates of Inner Mongolia, China with Indian delegates



Cosmetics made out of camel milk in export quality finish



Twins born from Bactrian female attracted attention of all delegates



Various products made out of camel milk on display



Camel city was made for cooperatives of camel herdsman



### Glimpses of International Camel Conference, Inner Mongolia, China



Dr. T.K. Gahlot, Editor of camel books and Journal of Camel Practice and Research presenting journals and books to Prof Jirimutu



Milking of camels by machine milking



A herd of Bactrian camels



A discussion of Indian delegation with authorities of Inner Mongolia Research Centre of Camels

### Camel carvings discovered in Saudi Arabia



which also depicts camels, is featured on UNESCO's list of World Heritage Sites.

Archaeologists (a joint Franco-Saudi research team) have discovered 2,000-year-old life-size camel carvings, unlike any others in the region, in the northwestern Al Jawf province in Saudi Arabia. Scientists believe that the area's proximity to caravan routes suggest it could have served as a place of worship or boundary marker. Engravings and paintings are the most common techniques found in Arabian rock art, making the latest discovery unique for its use of sunken reliefs. Rock art is widespread in the kingdom. The Rock Art in the Ha'il region,

### Saudi Arabia pushes for international forum on camels

Organisers of the King Abdul Aziz Camel Festival are planning to hold an international forum that would bring together people with interests in camels to reflect on ways to generate greater attention, better care and more business about the desert animals. This platform can be used to research ways to benefit from camels whether economically, nutritionally or other ways.

Dr Fahad Bin Abdullah Al Samawi, the Secretary General of the Riyadh-based King Abdul Aziz Foundation for Research and Archives (Darah) and the general supervisor of the festival, informed about a major plan to build on the success of the current King Abdul Aziz Camel Festival by launching a forum that would promote research about camels and bring together people from across the world to exchange views about them. The forum will enable the participants to explore new ideas about how to take care of camels in a better way. It will be an opportunity for camel experts to exchange views on ways that would benefit camel owners, the economy and tourism. They can tell owners about economic and health benefits of camel milk. The main goal of the forum will be raise awareness about importance of camels like horses.

### World's first camel hospital just opened in Dubai



Last week, in a world's first, a new 40 million dirhams (\$10.9 million) camel hospital opened in Al Marmoum, Dubai, with state of the art treatment on par with that offered for racehorses. The hospital will be able to treat up to 20 camels at any given time and is equipped with a small racetrack to get the camels rehabilitated after their medical procedures. Its customised equipment were adapted from equestrian medical equipment to accommodate camel treatment. A surgery starts at around 3500 dirhams (\$990)

and an X-ray or ultrasound at 400 dirhams (\$110). The hospital intends to help in the research and development of camel medicine.

### Camels carry a heavy viral load

A burden of mammalian viruses makes camel a breeding ground for novel human diseases. Camels are a melting pot for mammalian viruses, according to new research, and may serve as an incubator for the production of novel viruses which would infect humans. Despite thousands of years of close proximity to humans, camels generally haven't been considered a major source for human diseases. However, the MERS coronavirus (MERS-CoV) which caused a disease outbreak in Saudi Arabia in 2012 is known to have originated in bats and incubated in camels before infecting humans. Camels are thought to serve as a major reservoir of MERS-CoV, and a 2014 study identified a range of mammalian viruses in pooled camel faecal samples. In the new study, a team led by researchers from



the Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority and the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) sequenced DNA from nasopharyngeal samples taken from 108 camels known to carry MERS-CoV. They found sequences related to mammalian viruses from 13 genera in 10 families, including viruses known to infect humans and other animals, as well as some potentially novel camel viruses. Many of the camels were infected with viruses from two or three different genera, and MERS-CoV was found with another coronavirus, alpha-CoV, in more than 90% of the samples. The high co-infection rates raise the risk that viruses might recombine, borrowing genetic material from each other, gaining the ability to infect a different host species. This risk is exacerbated by the fact that humans and camels often mix in live animal markets which are home to many other species such as cattle, sheep, and goats and even occasionally chickens, dogs, or cats.

### Saudi Arabia establishes the first official camel club

A camel club is established for the first time in Saudi Arabia. King Salman issued a decree to launch the club, reported Al Arabiya. King Salman endorsed on April 13 the closing ceremony of King Abdulaziz Camel Festival in its new version for this year in Siahed, northeast of Riyadh. The Saudi king announced the inauguration of a specialised village for camels to boost its folkloric significance,



researches and trade in the Kingdom. The initiative is an expression of the Kingdom's attentiveness in supporting the country's heritage, culture and support for camels and its importance to Saudi Arabia's heritage and history. The club will be an important reference for health related issues and historical researches that would function as an official umbrella for camel owners in the Kingdom. It will also play social and cultural roles linking the current generation and the desert icons. It will also work for preservation of rare breeds of camels, provide accurate statistics in cooperation with sectors on the numbers and types of camels, research in camel diseases and cooperation with their owners, communicate with similar clubs in the region and learn about their experiences. It will also help supervising duties on all festivals, competitions and auctions for camels. It will provide cooperation with government sectors such as the Ministry of Education to encourage young people to attend camel competitions and activities.