

# SUCCESSFUL MEDICAL MANAGEMENT OF DYSTOCIA IN TWO QUEENS

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Dystocia refers to the difficulty in giving birth to the fetus by the dam. Two queens were presented at at Veterinary Clinical Complex, Nagpur Veterinary College, Nagpur, with the complaint of straining since one day. Gestation period was completed in both. The induction of parturition was done with the help of Calcium and Oxytocin injections intravenously. Both live and dead fetuses were expelled out from birth canal with the help of kitting forceps. Both queens were administered with Antibiotic injections along with Supportive therapy and recovered successfully.

**Keywords:** Calcium, Dystocia, Fetus, Oxytocin and Queen.

Dystocia refers to the inability of the fetus to expel out by the dam or for the fetus to be delivered through cervix during 6-12 hour labor period (Dar *et al.*, 2015). The maternal causes are due to uterine inertia (the primary uterine inertia in which the uterine muscles do not contract, the secondary uterine inertia in which the uterine muscles are tired during labor from vigorous straining along with obstruction in the birth canal, Li *et al.*, 2021). The other causes may be partial or incomplete cervical dilation. The fetal causes are related to the head of the fetus, which is too large to pass through the birth canal, or oversized or malformed fetus. An abnormality in presentation, position and posture of the fetus also lead to dystocia. Also, the onset of labor can be lagged by physiological stress (Oliviera *et al.*, 2016). As per several case reports, queens have an incidence of dystocia from 3 to 20 per cent with some breeds having even higher rates than others (Hossain, 2021). As a whole, 67.1% incidence is due to maternal factors and 29.7% is due to fetal factors (Jyothi *et al.*, 2018).

## Case history and Observations

The pregnant queens were presented with the complaint of continuous straining since one day. Age of both the queens was 1.5 and 2.5 years. As per the owner, the gestation period of queens was completed. On general clinical examination, the temperature, respiration and pulse rate were normal in both. By per vaginal examination, the cervix was found to be incompletely dilated. Ultrasonographic examination had revealed live fetuses in one and dead fetuses in another queen. Also on radiographic examination, fetuses were found in lateral abdominal view of the queen. It was diagnosed as "Dystocia"

## Treatment, Results and Discussion:

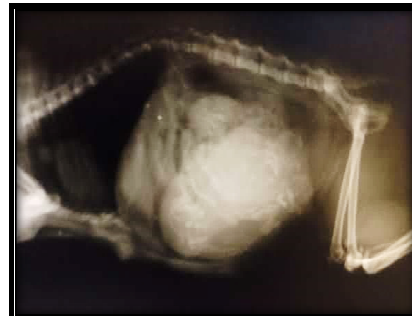
Medical management of dystocia was done in both cases. Pregnant queens were administered Inj. Oxytocin @ 5 IU/kg b.wt along with Inj. Calcium @ 0.2 ml/kg along with Inj. 5% Dextrose slowly by intravenous route. Oxytocin stimulates the frequency of uterine contractions, besides the administration of Calcium increases strength. Inj. Amoxicillin-Cloxacillin, Inj. and multivitamins was also given I/M Both queens recovered successfully in 5 days. Dystocia represents a medical and/or surgical emergency and must be treated within a

timely manner to ensure a favourable outcome or otherwise it results in harmful health risks to both queen and kittens. The incomplete cervical dilatation in this case comes under one of the maternal causes and it

may be due to uterine inertia. The Caesarean section was performed as another way of treatment in fatal dystocia case or when medical treatment fails and was not practicable as was also mentioned by Oliveria *et al.*, 2016.



**USG exam - live fetus**



**X-ray - fetal skeletons**



**Queen nursing 3 live kittens**



**Dead kittens delivered**

Medical management has the benefit of aiding completion of the parturition without surgical anesthesia. But, not all cases of dystocia can be managed medically, careful decision making is essential before following medical treatment. The Oxytocin injection along with Calcium Gluconate is best protocol for the treatment of dystocia due to incomplete dilatation of cervix in queen. Adequate nutrition plays a key role during pregnancy in queens to deliver live kittens.

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