

POLYMELIA IN A BUFFALO CALF

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Polymelia is a term used to describe duplication of a whole limb. The attachment of the whole limb to the pelvis region is known as pygomelia. These are non –inherited teratological defects of developmental malformation due to alteration in tissue differentiation that have been arisen from single ova in the embryogenic disc. Polymelia is defect due to excessive division like polydactyla, polythelia, poly dontia (Rahman *et al.*,2006). Congenital anomalies of skeletal system are common, and it may be affected in its entirety or with single, isolated defects. A case of polymelia and its surgical excision in a buffalo calf is discussed in this report.

CASE REPORT

A four months old non descriptive female buffalo calf was presented to Veterinary College and Research Institute, Namakkal Teaching Hospital with congenital defect of extra hind limb attached to pelvis at the pubic region (Fig1).On physical examination the animal was found quite normal. Clinical examination revealed articulation of the extra hind limb at the caudo medial aspect of the pubic bone. Radiological examination revealed no bony attachment to the pubic bone and the extra limb

has got condyle similar to the femur head articulating in a shallow acetabular articulation caudally at the pubic symphysis.

The pelvic region was prepared aseptically, under xylazine @ 0 .02 mg/kg b.wt and Lignocaine Hcl (2%) local infiltration the site was explored .The extra limb was carefully excised and disarticulated after dissecting the muscle and ligation of the major vessels namely femoral, medial circumflex femoral and lateral circumflex femoral arteries and veins . The extra limb has got a similar structure resembling femur head and a shallow articular surface in the pubic symphysis with true joint at the attachment. Post operative antibiotic coverage with analgesic was advocated and the animal recovered uneventfully.

On examination of the resected amputated limb, the limb has fused femoral bone with condyl, Tibia fibula, tarsus and metatarsus and phalanges symmetrical to the normal hind limb.

REFERENCE

Rahman M.M., M.S.I Khan, D.Biswas, C.Sutradhar and A.K.M.Saifuddin (2006). Pygomelia or supernumerary limbs in a cross bred calf.*J.Vet.Sci*,7 (3):303-305

