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POST-CAESERIAN HERNIAS IN CAMELS
A REPORT OF THREE CASES
(With One Figure)

By

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فتاق نتيجة شق قيصر في الجمال

عاطف بلبل ، رمضان عمـــــــر

تم إدخال ثلاث نياق إلى عيادة الجراحة بشكوى وجود ورم غير مؤلم بالجانب الأيسر الجيب باطني وتم تشخيص تلك الحالات بفتاق بطني نتيجة شق قيصر سابق بحوالي ٢ - ٣ شهر وقد تم إجراء جراحة لناقتان بنجاح أما الناقة الثالثة فلم تعالج وذلك لكونها عشار .

SUMMARY

Three she-camels were admitted with complaint of painless swelling located in the left ventrolateral aspect of the abdominal wall. The cases were diagnosed as post-caesarian hernias. Surgical procedures were successfully performed in two of them. The third one was not treated because she was pregnant.

Three she-camels of 6-8 years old were admitted to Surgery Clinic, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, King Faisal University, Saudi Arabia, with painless swellings located in the left ventrolateral aspect of the abdominal wall (Fig. 1). The swellings occurred 3-7 months post-caesarian. The hernias were about 20-25 cm in diameter.

Herniorrhaphy in two cases was performed under the effect of extradural anaesthesia and local infiltration anaesthesia using Lidocaine 2% solution (Sido-Kel) following premedication with Rompun (Bayer) at a dose rate of 0.22 mg/Kg.b.wt (BOLBOL *et al.*, 1980). The site of operation was prepared for aseptic surgery. About 15 cm elliptical incision was made. Dissection of the skin from the subcutaneous tissue was performed till reaching the hernial ring. The ruptured muscle was sutured with over-lapping mattress sutures (8 amel 1) and figure-of-eight sutures (8 amel 2) using braided silk No. 6. Continuous subcutaneous sutures were performed with No. 3 chromic gut. Skin was closed as usual using interrupted mattress following local application of antibiotics. Prophylactic antibiotic was parentally administered for 3 successive days. Skin sutures were removed 10-12 days post-operatively.

The third case was not treated because she was pregnant and the hernial sac not included the gravid uterus. The animal awaited up to the time of parturition.

Hernias are rarely encountered in camels (RAMADAN *et al.*, 1986). The available

literature reported occurrence of ventral hernias in male camels and post-caesarian ventral hernia in two camels (PUROHIT *et al.*, 1989). PUROHIT *et al.* (1989) described successful herniorrhaphy, while corrective surgery in the other two post-caesarian cases was not undertaken because both are pregnant despite the fact that the gravid uterus was not present in the hernial sac. The above authors added that both camels gave birth subsequently and parturition was normal.

It seems that the main cause of post-caesarian section hernias was due to either infection of the uterus or contamination of the surgical site (PUROHIT *et al.*, 1989) leading to destruction of the suture material resulting in disruption of the muscular layers.

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Fig. 1

