CLINICAL FINDING AND OUTCOME FOLLOWING SURGICAL REMOVAL OF NON-METALLIC FOREIGN BODY FROM SHEEP AND GOATS RUMEN

Almahdi Akraiem

Department of Clinical Studies, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Omar Al-Mukhtar University, Elbeida, Libya

Due to absence of recycling industries, especially the plastic materials are usually not disposed in a correct manner, and hence they were eaten by the grazing animals. Affected animals have anorexia and weight loss, emaciation and the rumen may be slightly bloated but it is not well filled with food. The objective of this study was to characterize the Clinical and surgical findings and outcome following Rumenotomy in SMALL RUMINANTS affected with Non-Metallic Foreign Body. The present study was carried out on 22 clinical cases (13 sheep and 9 goats) that were presented to the Veterinary clinic. These animals had foreign body in the rumen. The presence of the foreign body in the sheep and Goats was diagnosed by external abdominal palpation and confirmed later by Rumenotomy. The foreign bodies were removed from the rumen surgically by performing rumenotomy under xylazine (0.1mg/kg) and ketamine (5 mg/kg), with local anaesthetic along the line of incision. Information was obtained on signalment, history, clinical, laboratory and surgical findings. Three month after being discharged from the clinic, the owners answered a detailed questionnaire about the animal status by phone. 10 sheep and 7 Goats recovered completely and five animals (3 sheep and 2 goats), were slaughtered within 2 months following surgery. Accumulation of plastic materials leads to precipitation of some of the ruminal contents and salts to form a hard mass occupying a large space in the rumen and consequently impairs the digestion process. The surgical removal of foreign body demonstrated a low incidence of complications paired with positive effects on animal health. In sheep and Goats with anorexia and weight loss and emaciation causes other than NUTRITIONal deficiencies, gastrointestinal parasites and Infectious diseases must also be taken in consideration.

Keywords: Foreign Body, Rumenotomy, small ruminant, Libya