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Surgical management of eye abscess in spectacle cobra

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Abstract

A adult male spectacle cobra in Kananpindari Zoological Garden was week, dull and inactive and developed thick red swelling in his left eye. Close examination of eye after manual restraining shows degenerated eye ball and accumulation of pus in it. Surgical intervention done in manual restraining and local anaesthesia. Abscess drainage followed by enucleation of eye ball done to correct the condition. The condition of snake recovered within one week after necessary medication and force feeding.

Keywords: Surgical management, eye abscess, spectacle cobra, Kananpindari zoological garden

Introduction

A captive male spectacle cobra from snake house of Kananpindari zoological garden was reported off fed and dull from past 5 days. Snake was found inactive and immobile from last 3 days. Snake was taken out from cage with proper precaution and manual restraining done for clinical examination. On close examination a thin walled abscess covering whole left eye was observed. Other body parts shows no sign of external injury. Snake shows not much resistance while manual handling. Body weight of snake was 2.4kg. Clinical examination shows rectal temperature 90.20 F and loosening of skin indicative of dehydration.

Surgical management and Medicinal care

Clinical examination of snake shows marked dehydration and eye abscess. Snake was stabilized by giving 100ml of ringer lactate I intraperitoneal on lower two third body at the ventral side in between spinal processes. Inj. Ceftriaxone 100mg IM, Inj Dexamethasone 2mg IM and Inj. Meloxicam 1ml IM was given at upper one third body dorsolaterally in muscular area. Snake was kept under observation and surgery was planed next day.

Clinical examination next day's shows marked improve in body condition as increase in rectal temperature to 92.0 F and increase in activity and resistance while manual restraining. Surgical intervention was done with proper manual restraining and local anesthesia. 1 ml of 2% lignocaine was injected around the ocular area by 26 gauze needle. Abscess was washed with povidone iodine solution and abscess was drained with help of 26 gauze needle by aspiration. The shrunken outer layer of abscess was then incised by surgical blade number 15 and removed. Internal degenerated eye ball mass was carefully curated with the help of surgical blade. Minor bleeding at surgical site was controlled by manual. pressuring and tropical Hemostatics (Botroclot). Proper cleaning of ophthalmic cavity with Tinture Iodine was done. Cefelexin antimicrobial power was installed locally and complete closer of ophthalmic cavity was done by using 2/0 vycril suture material in continuous suturing pattern. Inj. Ceftriaxone 100mg IM, Inj Dexamethasone 2mg IM and Inj. Meloxicam 1ml IM was given at upper one third body dorsolaterally in muscular area after surgery. Snake was kept in sunlight for 2 hours after surgery.

Post operative Care and Management

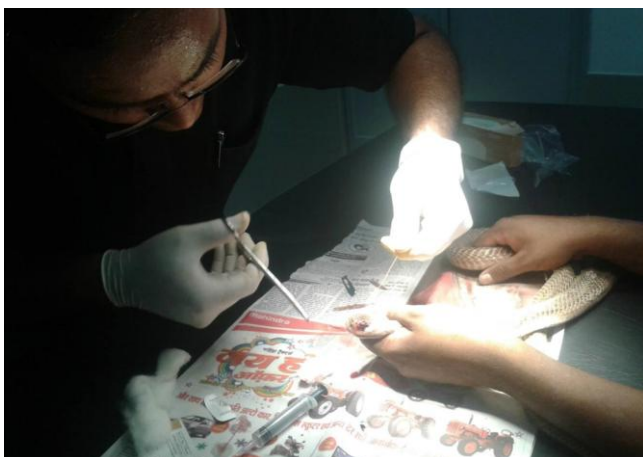
Snake was kept in separate case under observation. Inj. Ceftriaxone 100mg IM, Inj. Meloxicam 1ml IM and Inj. Vitamin B1, B6, B12 1ml IM was given for 5 days post surgery along with regular dressing of wound with Povidone iodine and antiseptic ointment. Snake was kept in sunlight for 4 hours daily. Marked increase in physical activity was noticed from second day of surgery.

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60gm white mouse was force fed to snake on second day of surgery. Snake recovered and had its prey on 7th post surgery.

Summary

A adult male spectale cobra in Kananpindari Zoological Garden was week, dull and inactive and developed thin red swelling in his right eye. Close examination of eye after manual restraining shows degenerated eye ball and accumulation of pus in it. Thin walled abscess covering whole left eye was observed. Other body parts shows no sign of external injury. Surgical intervention done in manual restraining and local anaesthesia. Abscess drainage followed by enucleation of eye ball done to correct the condition. Snake was kept in separate case under observation with required medication and care for 5 days post surgery. Marked increase in physical activity was noticed from second day of surgery. Snake completely recovered and had its prey on 7th day post surgery.



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