

Surgical Management of Traumatic Proptosis in the Rabbit – A Case Report

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ABSTRACT

Successful surgical treatment was performed in case of traumatic proptosis in five months old male rabbit by a temporary tarsorrhaphy. Vision of eye was checked as a normal by corneal reflex after thirty days of surgery.

Key words: Traumatic proptosis, Tarsorrhaphy, Canthotomy, Rabbit

INTRODUCTION

Traumatic proptosis is forward displacement of eye globe with subsequent posterior entrapment of eyelids due to traumatic cause^{1,2}. Blunt head trauma, bite wounds, retrobulber hemorrhage, orbital fracture, or restraint of exophthalmic animals can cause acute forward displacement of globe beyond the bony orbit and eyelids¹. When it occurs, there are very less chance to regain the vision².

Case history and observation-

A five months old male rabbit with traumatic proptosis in left eye was presented to the veterinary clinics Agartala. The owner reported that two male rabbits were kept in same box, for one night. The following day in morning the owner found that the left eye of one rabbit was reddened and swollen. Without being late the owner brought the rabbit into the

clinics. The clinical examination revealed that the almost two third of eye globe protruded from socket with eyelids curled behind it. The lids could not cover the eye and the surface of eye become dry and congested. There was no other clinical sign of injury in the head or other body parts. From clinical observation it was suspected that the two male rabbits might fight each other at that night and presented rabbit was injured in left eye by another rabbit and due to irritation in affected eye the rabbit stretched its eye by its own leg and the condition became more severe and turned to traumatic proptosis when it was presented to clinics.

Treatment and discussion-

After evaluating the condition of eye, it was decided to replace back the eye into the socket by temporal tarsorrhaphy.

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The rabbit is placed under general anesthesia, and then clean the eye first with 0.9% normal saline solution after that antibiotic ointment were applied to the injured eye in an attempt to reduce further damage to the cornea. The eye was first tried to push back in to the socket but it was difficult to do, therefore an incision was made in the outer edge of the eyelid (lateral canthotomy) to allow more space for the eye to be replaced into the bony socket. After replacing the eye, three horizontal mattress patterned suture were given to the outside eyelids with nylon suture.

As post operative care inj. Enrofloxacin (Byrosin 10%, Pfizer- Bayer) @ 5 mg per kg body weight BID for five days intra muscularly, inj. Prednisolone (predisolone acetate, Intervet) @ 0.5 mg / kg BID for 5 days intra muscularly and Acetazolamide (Diamox tablet, Wyeth) @0.5 mg per kg body weight BID for three days orally were given. Dressing with povidone iodine 5% solution (Drez lotion) in alternate day for five days and apply cold and hot compression alternatively to the eye was

advised to owner. Removal of suture was done on 10th day. After 30 days of operation the eye was examined and the eye showed sensitivity to light by corneal reflex.

Though traumatic proptosis is common in other animals but it is rare in rabbit moreover the prognosis of surgery is not good because of late in treatment and scratching habit of rabbit in affected eye. However, in this paper we presented a successful surgical intervention for the treatment of proptosis in rabbit.

Conflict of interest -

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interests

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