

## **Effect of Prostaglandin F2 alpha on induction of parturition in she camel (*Camelus dromedarius*)**

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Ever since the initial reports of the use of corticosteroids commonly used in large farm animals for the induction of parturition (Adams, 1969) and corticosteroids and prostaglandins in combination (Morrow, 1986) several successful reports have appeared in the literature. Perusal of literature did not show any report on this aspect in she camel in this country.

On 10/03/1996 a she camel with a history of dystocia in the previous parturition was presented with a report of exceeding normal gestation period  $389.3 \pm 0.08$  days (Khanna et al., 1990) by 24 days. Clinical examination revealed staggering gait and hind quarters were unable to bear weight. Gynaeco-clinical examination revealed foetus in posterior presentation with no foetal movements and a feeble pulsation of uterine artery. The external OS was closed and no labour pains were observed.

Initially a dose of PGF<sub>2</sub> alpha 30 mg (Lutalyse, Unichem laboratories ltd. Bombay) was administered intramuscularly. Supportive treatment with parenteral fluids and antibiotics was followed for the next three consecutive days. Vaginal examination after 24 h of treatment revealed no conspicuous change in the condition of external os. At 48 h the cervix was partially open admitting one finger while at 72 h it was sufficiently dilated to allow the hand inside the uterus through the cervix and with manual manoeuvring a male dead foetus was recovered in posterior presentation.

Prior to attempting retraction the uterus was well lubricated with bland oil. Following delivery of foetus, Teramycin bolus 500 mg x 10 (Pfizer limited) were placed inside the uterus to check the infection. However the animal died on the fourth day. Induction of parturition with corticosteroids to be effective requires a live foetus of at least 7 months old (Vandeplassche et al., 1974) however in the present study the foetus was normal gestation and was delivered dead.

### **References**

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