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## CLINICAL USE OF HOMEOPATHIC IPECACUANHA FOR HAEMATOGALACTIA IN HF CROSSBRED COW

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### ABSTRACT

The present case report describes haemagalactia in a lactating cow and its successful management with parenteral homeopathic medicate Ipecacuanha 200x at the dose rate of 10 pills for 5 days.

**KEY WORDS:** Ipecacuanha, haemagalactia

## INTRODUCTION

Blood in milk is a state of physiological hyperemia (excess supply of blood) of the mammary gland. Blood tinge or haematogalactia in milk could be attributed to injury in capillaries of mammary glands. Any other haemorrhage by the movement or passage of blood cells, especially white blood cells, through intact capillary walls into surrounding body tissue, is considered to be pathological and it generally results from damage to the epithelial lining of the teat cistern, owing to harsh milking by hand or machine (Heidrich and Renk, 1967). Sometimes the situation becomes so worsen that fully brown chocolate colored secretions/ milk are voided instead of milk from lactating female buffaloes. Farmers suffer from economic loss as blood mixed milk is unfit for consumption and loss is collectively more and may precipitate to mastitis. The present case report documents haemagalactia in a HF cross bred cow and its successful clinical management with homeopathic Ipecacuanha medication. Ipecacuanha is derived from Ipecac root with psoric miasmatic background with 7-10 days duration of action indicated to combat cases of hemorrhage, nausea and vomiting (Patil, 2014) also for haemorrhages with bright red and profuse secretions/ bleeding in well built fatty individuals during warm and moist weather conditions for (Boericke, 2011).

## CASE HISTORY

A five-year-old well built HF cross bred cow was presented to Veterinary Hospital, Alur, Hassan, Karnataka with a

history of haemagalactia from swollen left forequarter since one month during late summer month. The animal was in the second lactation and had calved two weeks ago. There was no history of any trauma to the udder or teat. The animal was treated with several anticoagulants and anti-inflammatory medicines but no improvement was noticed.

## CLINICAL EXAMINATION & TREATMENT

The swollen left forequarter was soft to touch and flaccid with evidence of pain. The milk from the swollen quarter was chocolate brown colored (Fig. 1). The milk samples from other quarters were normal in appearance and colour. The respiration rate, temperature, heart rate and other physical parameter were normal. The animal was treated with homeopathic medicate Ipecacuanha 200x bid at the dose rate of 10 pills for 5 days.

## DISCUSSION

Crossbred cows are reared for milk production and the presence of blood in milk or milk mixed with mucus are of the most important reasons for discard of milk. There are several causes for haemagalactia condition in cows. The local or systemic infections such as mastitis or leptospirosis could be the cause of bloody milk in some herds. The affected udders are usually flaccid as observed in the present case and affected animals commonly experience other clinical signs such as fever, hemoglobinuria, abortion, and decrease in appetite and milk yield (Radostits et al., 2007; George et al., 2008). The bloody milk is usually thick with blood as noticed

in the present case. The milk samples from other quarters were found to be normal. Haemagalactia noticed, in this case, might be due to rupture of capillary in gland sinus of mammary gland. The traumatic rupture of some varicose blood vessel within the lactiferous sinus of the mammary gland is the most frequent cause of reddish discolouration of milk (Hungerford, 1990). In the present study, the HF cross bred cow showed complete recovery as evidenced by change of milk color to white without any clots and reduction in size of the left quarter to normalcy (Fig 2) in five days with homeopathic medicate Ipecacuanha 200x at the dose rate of 10 pills bid for 5 days. Different treatment strategies are available for the treatment of haemagalactia, which includes parenteral calcium, parenteral and local coagulants, local and parenteral vasoconstrictors, antioxidants, antibiotics and blood transfusion (Muhammad and Rashid, 2015). The circulatory system of the udder is very sensitive to the vasoconstrictor action of adrenaline (Heidrich and Renk, 1967; Muhammad and Rashid, 2015). Parenteral injections of coagulants such as tranexamic acid and adrenochrome are likely to give better cure rates than calcium borogluconate (Radostits et al., 2007; Muhammad and Rashid, 2015). Likewise, the local decongestive and coagulative effect of Ipecacuanha observed in the present study could be attributed to the medically active constituents including plant alkaloids, isoquinoline, tannins, glycosides, cephaeline, and methyl-cephaeline with starch and resin (Mondal and Moktan, 2020) of Ipecac made from

alcohol extraction of the plants *Cephaelis acuminata* and *Cephaelis ipecacuanha*. The cost of treatment was US \$ 0.2 per day with Ipecacuanha tincture. However, the definitive conclusions could not be established due to the limited number of observations and lack of control group.



Fig 1. Chocolate Brown Colored milk



Fig 2. Milk with Normal Consistency

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