



## CASE REPORT

**Induction of whelping in a bitch**

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**Abstract**

Parturition is a physiological process involved in expulsion of normal viable fetus from uterus through the maternal passage by natural forces alone at a stage when the young one is capable of independent existence(Roberts,2004).This act though physiological is accompanied by pain, uneasiness and violent efforts in the bitch termed as labor pains(Sane et al.,1994).Bitches near whelping often can inhibit labor until favourable environmental conditions are present and if satisfactory environment is not present, whelping may be prolonged and difficult(Arthur et al.,2001). Longer gestation periods should be checked and professional advice should be sought since prolonged gestation may lead to fetal and maternal death.

*Copy Right, IJAR, 2013., All rights reserved.***Case history and Observations**

A primiparous full term pregnant Labrador bitch was presented to Teaching Veterinary Clinical Service Complex, College of Veterinary Science & AH, MHOW with history of pregnancy beyond the normal gestational length. The animal had completed normal gestational period of 66 days from date of last mating and was bright and alert with temperature 99.5 ° F. Per vaginal examination revealed completely closed external os-cervix Ultrasonographic examination showed presence of fully developed fetuses(Fig.1) having heartbeats .Exfoliative vaginal cytologic examination revealed presence of parabasal cells,intermediate cells and few neutrophils(Fig.2). The haematological values were as:Hb :8gm%,TLC: 12000cumm,PCV: 27%, DLC: N 54%,E 2%,B 3%,L 40% & M 1%, suggestive of healthy condition. The animal was showing nesting behaviour continuously and milk expressed from the teats.

**Obstetrical Management**

The animal was given Inj.DNS(200 ml I/V), Inj. Ca Sandoz (5ml I/M), Inj.Polybion (2ml I/M) and Inj. Dexona (2ml I/M) and owner was advised to wait for few hrs. After 4hrs per vaginal examination revealed

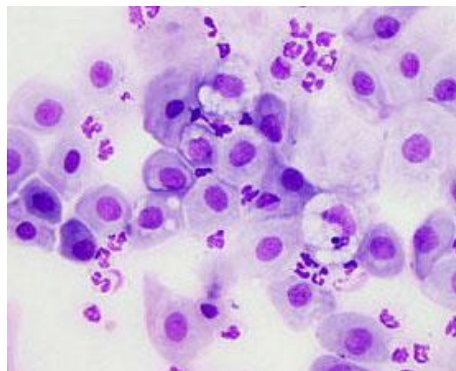
partially open os cervix and the birth passage was not dilated properly. The animal was then given Inj.Epidosin(1.5 ml I/M). After an hour a water bag appeared at the vulva with delivery of first pup in anterior presentation 7 minutes after the appearance of water bag. Subsequently second pup was delivered in the same fashion after 20 minutes. The bitch then rested for an hour and started straining again but its efforts were not enough to expel rest of fetus. The animal was given 10 IU of oxytocin and within 15 minutes of its administration third pup was delivered in posterior presentation. The bitch again gave a pause and delivery of three more pups in anterior presentation at an interval of 1 to 1.5 hours was observed. The placenta of each fetus expelled along with it. Ultrasonographic examination was done to confirm that all fetus have been delivered.

The stages of expulsion of fetus have been reported to be irregular, some bitches may have their first pup and then rest for several hours, then expel two or three more in quick succession and then rest again before expelling several more (Arthur et al.,2001).In the present study the bitch took almost 7 hrs for expulsion of six live pups.

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**Fig 1:** Ultrasonographic image of fetus.



**Fig 2:** Vaginal smear showing parabasal cells, intermediate cells and neutrophils.

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