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RESEARCH ARTICLE

Occurrence of toxocariosis in dog of Kanpur and their therapeutic management

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ABSTRACT : The occurrence of toxocariosis due to *Toxocara canis* in dogs in kanpur region of Uttar Pradesh, was studied during the mansoon (July to October), 2011. A total 60 dogs aged between 0 to 2 years were examined in which only 21 (35%) dogs were found positive for *Toxocara canis* on the basis of faecus examination. Out of them, 8 (13.33%) dogs and 13 (21.66%) pups were found infected with toxocariosis. The results of therapeutic management by using drugs prazicon @ ½ tab. per 5 kg b. wt., peprazin @ 5 ml per 5 kg b. wt. and cina. 200 @ 10-15 pills per 5 kg b.wt. indicated 100 per cent, 100 per cent and 87 per cent effective, respectively to cure toxocariosis in dogs without producing any side effect.

Key words : *Toxocara canis*, Dog, Prazicon cina, Toxocariosis

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INTRODUCTION

Toxocariosis caused by *Toxocara canis* (nematode) is quite common disease in dogs and zoonotic in nature. This parasitic infection has been studied in various tropical regions of the world, including India (Coman,1972; Islam and Chizyuk,1988; Hoida *et al.,*1998 and Sharma *et al.,*2005). The genus *Toxocara* having pre-natal, lactogenic transmission and migratory behaviour of its larval stages cause diarrhoea, vomiting, growth retardation, hepatic fibrosis and significantly pulumonary lesions. This form is most common in newly born and young pups where mortality is low but morbidity may reach high and animals become very weak and emaciated. However, heavy parasitic load may cause death. Man easily gets infection as pet use or eggs of worm enter through food or water contamination. No doubt the several drugs have been invented to control this parasite inspite of, the infections continue to be alarmingly high. Keeping these in view, the present investigation was undertaken to control the toxocariosis in dogs; through effective and cheapest way using two drugs of allopathic prazicon and peprazin and using one homeopathic drug cina.

RESEARCH METHODS

To record the toxocariosis infection and severity of infection, 30 male and 30 female dogs aged between 0 to 2 years were examined during the period from 5 July to 2 october (mansoon) 2011 in Kanpur city. Faecal samples (60) were collected directly from the rectum of each dog in vessels for screening of toxocariosis infection using Mc Master egg counting techniques (Kelly, 1974). The faecal samples were examined by direct smear, sedimentations techniques and zinc sulphate floatation technique for the presence of eggs as per standard procedure described by Sastry (2000). The *Toxocara* eggs were identified on the basis of morphological features of eggs (Soulusby, 1982).

Therapeutic trials:

Among the positive dogs and pups, 8 pups were selected and randomly divided into four group (A, B, C and D) of two pups in each. Prazicon @ ½ tablet per 5 kg body weight and peprazin @ 5 ml per 5 kg b. wt. were given in all pups of group A and B once a day through oral route. Pups of group C were received cina 200 @ 10-15 pills through oral route twice a day. While the pups of group D were kept as untreated control. To assess the efficacy of drugs, the faecal samples from each pup were re-examined with the same methods stated above on first, second and third week of treatment with respect to reduction of eggs using the formula described by Wirthere