

Research
Note

Cutaneous papillomatosis in a non-descript cow

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Papilloma viruses are the cause of cutaneous warts in cattle and horses. These viruses have considerable host specificity. In cattle, warts can occur on almost any part of the body and these tumors persist for long periods and are discrete, low, flat and circular in appearance. Surgery and vaccination, or a combination of both, are the most common forms of treatment. The present article reports a case of cutaneous papillomatosis in a non-descript cow and its successful treatment.

Case history:

A non-descript cow of about six years was presented to the Veterinary Dispensary, Salkani with a complaint of pea sized growths all over the body. On clinical examination, all the physiological parameters were in the normal range. Diffuse areas of pedunculated pea sized masses were seen all over the body. The lesions were more concentrated in the anterior portions especially in the facial region. By clinical lesions it was diagnosed as cutaneous papilloma /warts.

Treatment:

It was decided to undertake auto haemotherapy for the present condition.

Accordingly the cow was treated using its own blood. 20ml of venous blood was drawn from the Jugular vein using 18G hypodermic needle in a disposable syringe. 10ml of it was injected subcutaneously in the lateral neck region and 10ml was injected deep intramuscularly in the gluteal region by taking all sterile precautions.

The treatment was repeated once in a week for four weeks continuously.

After third injection, the papilloma growths showed signs of regression. The animal was under observation for six weeks. By the end of six weeks all the papilloma growths were completely reduced and only light black colored scars were seen at the site of the growth. Rachel (2011) used a combination of autogenous vaccine, hemotherapy and homeopathy to treat oral papilloma in dogs. Halil *et al.* (2003) treated bovine papilloma with a combination of autohemotherapy and autogenous vaccine within a period of 1.5-2 months. Vaccines are of some value as a preventive but are of little value in treating cattle that already have lesions. (Merk Veterinary Manual, 2011). However in this report, without using any chemical agent, only autohemotherapy was employed to treat cutaneous papillomatosis in a non-descript cow.