



Clinical Report

**Idiopathic Megaesophagus in a Goat:
Clinical and Radiological Features**

**Ali Asghar Mozaffari*, DVSc
Dariush Vosough, DVSc**

*Department of Clinical Sciences, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine,
Shahid Bahonar University of Kerman, Kerman, Iran.*

Abstract

Case Description- A 2-years-old female Iranian cross-breed goat with a history of chronic anorexia and intermittent regurgitation after eating food or drinking water was referred to the Veterinary Clinic.

Clinical Findings- In clinical examination, persistent fever, swelling of distal portion of the neck, clinical evidence of laryngeal and pharyngeal dysfunction was detected.

Treatment and Outcome- A fiberoptic endoscopic examination and positive-contrast radiography revealed megaesophagus. The animal was not treated because of postoperative complications.

Clinical Relevance- Megaesophagus is a dilatation and atony of the body of the esophagus which occurs sporadically in animals and rarely in ruminants.

Keywords- Goat, Megaesophagus, Clinical, Radiological

*** Corresponding Author:**

Ali Asghar Mozaffari, DVSc

Department of Clinical Sciences, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Shahid Bahonar University of Kerman, Kerman, Iran. E-mail address: aliasghar_mozaffari@mail.uk.ac.ir

Case Description

A 2-years-old female Iranian cross-breed goat with a history of chronic anorexia, weight loss and intermittent regurgitation after eating food or drinking water was referred to the Veterinary Clinic of Shahid Bahonar University of Kerman.

Clinical Findings

In clinical examination, swelling of the distal portion of the neck (figure 1), mild recurrent bloat, discomfort and clinical evidence of laryngeal and pharyngeal dysfunction was observed. Body temperature, heart and respiratory rates were normal. Hematological indices, including packed cell volume, total and differential WBC count and total RBC were normal. A fiberoptic endoscopic examination and positive-contrast radiography (figure 2) revealed dilatation of two part of esophagus, one in the cranial part of thoracic inlet and other in before base of the heart which could be mean presence of megaesophagus.

Treatment and Outcome

Because of poor prognosis and post operative complications, surgical treatment did not perform. The owner of animal did not allow any necropsy. The animal died after 1 month.



Figure 1. Swelling of the distal portion of the neck in affected goat.

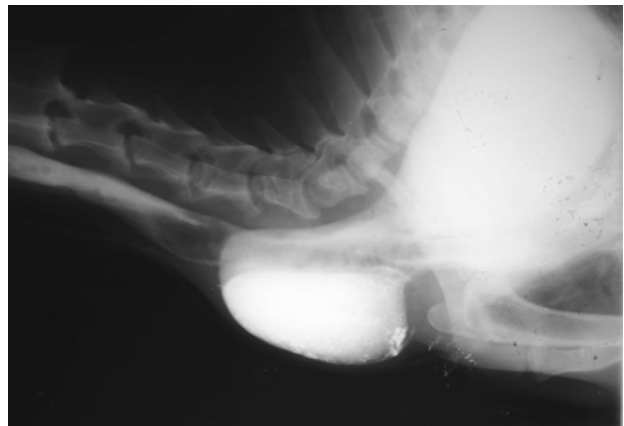


Figure 2. Positive-contrast radiograph, dilatation of distal portion of esophagus.

Discussion

Megaesophagus is a dilatation and atony of the body of the esophagus usually associated with asynchronous function of the esophagus and caudal esophageal sphincter. It occurs sporadically in animals and rarely in ruminants. It is usually a congenital condition, causing regurgitation and aspiration pneumonia. A mild esophagitis has been observed in some cases and congenital stenosis of the esophagus in a foal has been associated with megaesophagus¹. Megaesophagus has been reported in goat, cattle, horse, cat and dog²⁻¹¹. Based on author's knowledge there is not

any report about of megaesophagus in Iranian cross-breed goat. Megaesophagus has been reported in association with pharyngeal trauma and resultant involvement of the vagus, as well as hiatal hernia¹². In present case the etiology was unknown.

References

1. Radostits OM, Gay CC, Blood DC. *Veterinary medicine*. 9th Ed. Philadelphia: W.B. Saunders Co, 2000; 193.
2. Parish SM, Middleton JR, Baldwin TJ. Clinical megaesophagus in a goat with thymoma. *Vet Rec* 1996;139:94.
3. Vestweber JG, Leipold HW, Knighton RG. Idiopathic megaesophagus in a calf: clinical and pathologic features. *J Am Vet Med Assoc* 1985;187:1369-1370.
4. Ross CE, Rebhun WC. Megaesophagus in a cow. *J Am Vet Med Assoc* 1986;188:623-624.
5. Anderson NV, Vestweber JG, Voisin AJ, et al. Hiatal hernia and segmental megaesophagus in a cow. *J Am Vet Med Assoc* 1984;184:193-195.
6. Ndikuwera J, Odiawo GO, Usenik EA. Idiopathic megaesophagus in a pregnant heifer. *Vet Rec* 1990;126:165-166.
7. Ulutas B, Sarierler M, Bayramli G, et al. Macroscopic findings of idiopathic congenital megaesophagus in a calf. *Vet Rec* 2006;158:26.
8. Murray MJ, Ball MM, Parker GA. Megaesophagus and aspiration pneumonia secondary to gastric ulceration in a foal. *J Am Vet Med Assoc* 1988;192:381-383.
9. Maddison JE, Allan GS. Megaesophagus attributable to lead toxicosis in a cat. *J Am Vet Med Assoc* 1990;197:1357-1358.
10. Shimamura S, Shimizu M, Kobayashi M, et al. Megaesophagus was complicated with Billroth I gastroduodenostomy in a cat. *J Vet Med Sci* 2005;67:935-937
11. Holland CT, Satchell PM, Farrow BR. Vagal esophagomotor nerve function and esophageal motor performance in dogs with congenital idiopathic megaesophagus. *Am J Vet Res* 1996;57:906-913.
12. Smith BP. *Large animal internal medicine*. 2nd ed. Philadelphia: WB Saunders Co, 1996; 823-825.

گزارش یک مورد مگازوفآگوس با علت ناشناخته در یک رأس بز: مشاهدات بالینی و پرتونگاری

علی اصغر مظفری، داریوش وثوق

گروه علوم درمانگاهی، دانشکده دامپزشکی، دانشگاه شهید باهنر کرمان، کرمان، ایران.

توصیف بیمار- یک بز نژاد ایرانی مخلوط ماده با تاریخچه بی اشتهاپی مزمن و برگشت متناوب مایعات و مواد غذایی بعد از خوردن غذا و مایعات به کلینیک دانشکده دامپزشکی دانشگاه شهید باهنر کرمان ارجاع گردید.

یافته های بالینی- در معاینه بالینی تب، اتساع قسمت پایینی مری، علائم بالینی اختلال در عمل حلق و حنجره مشخص گردید. **درمان و نتیجه آن-** معاینه توسط یک اندوسکوپ و رادیوگرافی ناحیه مشخص کرد که ضایعه مورد نظر یک مگازوفآگوس می باشد. به علت عوارض ناشی از جراحی درمان انجام نشد.

کاربرد بالینی- مگازوفآگوس اتساع و آتونی مری می باشد که به صورت انفرادی در حیوانات رخ می دهد و در نشخوارکنندگان به ندرت رخ میدهد.

کلید واژگان- بز نژاد آمیخته ایرانی، مگازوفآگوس، علائم رادیولوژی و بالینی