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The menagement of the Supracondylary Femoral Fracture in a calf

Summary: In this report, the management of the supracondylary femoral fracture in a calf has been represented.

Introduction

The incidence of the supracondylary femoral fracture in calves is very few. Trauma is common responsible or contributory in some kind of mineral substances.

Numerous technics have been described for the correction of the supracondylary femoral fractures in small animals but not in calves (1,2,3,4,5).

Material And Method

A three months old male calf was presented shortly after being struck. And a supracondylary fracture diagnosis was based on the left femur bone by physical and radiological examinations. (Figure: 1).

Modified PETTIT-WHEAT method by using bone pin was considered for the treatment of this case. The patient was brought to a surgical plane of anesthesia by ROMPUN** and placed in lateral recumbency with the affected leg uppermost.

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** A product of Bayer Farmaceutical Company.
Surgical Procedure: A skin incision approximately 10 centimeters long is started lateral to the tendon of quadriceps and extended across the lateral aspect of the stifle to a point opposite the tibial crest. After incising the subcutaneous tissue, a stab incision was made into the stifle joint through the lateral part of the joint capsule just beside the patella. Enough capsule and overlying fascia was left attached to the recto-patellar ligament to simplify suturing it to the free portion.

The capsular incision was extended with scissors both proximally and distally from the stabbed site, and the patella was reflected medially therefore the fracture site was exposed using aseptic procedure. Obstructive blood clots and tissue debris were removed only as necessary to clean the fracture site.

A hole following a channel have been opened by using a hand chuck just over the Intercondylar fossa through the proximal fragment of the fracture obliquely.

Priorly produced bone pin was inserted into the channel. After the fragments were brought into the close apposition, the pin was nailed by using metallic hammer. (Figure: 2).

First row suture was placed on the joint capsule and its overlying tissue with the absorbable material. In order to close subcutaneous tissue, second row was performed with the absorbable material also and the skin was closed vertical mattress suture used nonabsorbable material.

Conclusion

A method of fixation supracondylary femoral fracture of the calves have not been described in the literature, but many technics already been documented for small animals.

The method of PETTIT-WHEAT which is performed by using bone pine has been considered the convenient method for the fixation of the supracondylary femoral fracture of the calves. The reduction was not clearly perfect in this case but the fixation was firm and the calf has began bearing weight on the 15 postoperative day. Further follow-up on this case was not possible.
References


Figure 1: Asupracondylary femoral fracture is seen on the latero-lateral aspect
Figure 2: After fixation of the supracondylary femoral fracture of the calf is seen on the latero-lateral aspect.