

## Diseases of muscles

### **Azoturia**

**Tying up = Monday morning disease = Paralytic myoglobinuria**

**Sporadic exertional rhabdomyolysis in horse**

❖ **Def.:** Disease of horses, occurring during exercise after a period of inactivity on full rations, It is characterized by myoglobinuria, muscular degeneration & lumber paralysis.

❖ **Incidence** → Draft horses & Race horses fed heavily on grain

#### ❖ **Causes**

1. Abnormalities in metabolic function
2. Overfeeding on rest day or high-carbohydrate diets
3. Dietary deficiency of vitamin E & selenium
4. Hypothyroidism
5. Sodium or potassium deficiency
6. Viral infection

#### ✓ **The most common cause is:**

- Performing exercise of unaccustomed intensity or duration, which can result in metabolic exhaustion & hyperthermia.
- Prolonged period (days to weeks) of rest in a horse previously accustomed to regular exercise.

#### ❖ **Pathogenesis**

- Large stores of glycogen → in muscles during a period of rest
  - The glycogen is rapidly metabolized to → lactic acid
  - Lactic acid accumulated in the muscles in the form of **sarc lactate**
  - **Lactate** → is very toxic leading to swollen of the muscles → muscular hyaline degeneration and coagulation of muscle proteins.
  - Liberation of myoglobin → myoglobinemia → myoglobinuria & **red brown urine**
  - Coagulative necrosis of muscle fibers → hard, stiff & painful swelling of the large muscle
  - The gluteal muscles → most commonly involved → animal unable to stand and lie down (Sternal or lateral recumbency)
  - Pressure on the sciatic & other crural nerves → degeneration of the rectus femoris and vastus muscles
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- Excessive myoglobin → high pressure on the kidney tubules → degeneration of the renal tubules and formation of cast then nephrosis or nephropathy develops leading to → azoturia & uremia
  - Death due to septicemia or myohemoglobinuric nephrosis and uremia or due to degeneration of myocardium

## ❖ Clinical finding

### A. Acute form

1. Signs develop **15 minutes to 1 hour** after the beginning of work or exercise
2. Profuse sweating, stiffness of gait.
3. The signs may disappear in a few hours if the horse is allowed to rest immediately but the condition usually progresses to recumbency
4. Severe pain & repeated attempts to rise
5. Rapid respiration, weak rapid pulse, congested mucus membrane & temperature may rise up to 40.5 °C
6. One limb or all four limbs may be affected.
7. The gluteal muscles is stiff & hard
8. **The urine is deep reddish brown or coffee color**
9. Appetite and water intakes are often normal, constipation may occur due to decrease in peristaltic movement

### B. Sub-acute form

1. Signs are mild and myoglobinuria is **absent**
2. There is lameness, and great restriction of movement of the hind limbs
3. The horse first assuming a **dog sitting position** followed by lateral recumbency then death.

## ❖ Diagnosis

1. Case history (rest, overfeeding)
2. Clinical signs
3. Urine analysis → Urine is dark red & contains myoglobin
4. Serum analysis → Elevated serum creatinine phosphokinase & serum glutamic oxalacetic transaminase (GOT).
5. Electrocardiograph is diagnostic in case of myocardial degeneration

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## ❖ Differential diagnosis

1. **Laminitis** → no discoloration of urine
2. **Myositis** → develops slowly & affects the muscles of the jaw

Myositis	Azoturia
بعد التمارين بربع ساعه بيحصل عرج	
بيختفى بعد شوية (disappear signs)	مع مرور الوقت بيزيد سوء

3. **Rheumatic myositis** → No discoloration of urine & respond to treatment with antirhumatic
4. **Vitamin E & selenium deficiency** → no discoloration of urine & decrease in serum selenium and vitamin E
5. **Iliac thrombosis** → can be detected by rectal palpation.
6. **Tetanus** → Prolapse of the 3rd eye lid, locked jaw, history of old wound
7. **Colic** → Fits of colic with normal colored urine

## 8. Blood parasites → Positive blood film

Hemoglobin urea	Myoglobinuria	Hematuria
<b>Centrifugation</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ No sediment</li><li>▪ Bright red</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ No sediment</li><li>▪ Dark red (<b>coffee color</b>)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Clear sediment</li><li>▪ Bright red</li></ul>

### ❖ Treatment

#### A. Hygienic treatment

1. Complete rest
2. Application of fresh heavy bedding
3. Turn the animal every **4 hours** to avoid hypostatic congestion
4. **Avoid** giving any **nitrogenous food** during the course of treatment
5. Application of **hot fomentation** especially on the hind quarter

#### B. Medical treatment

**1. Sedative & anti-inflammatory** → Novalgin 50 % 20 - 30 ml or dexamethasone

**2. Antacid** → sodium bicarbonate → to keep the urine alkaline & prevent myoglobin precipitation in the renal tubules

**3. Electrolyte or glucose solution** to maintain a high rate of urine flow & avoid tubular blockage

**4.** Vitamin E, selenium injection

**5.** Narcotic drugs → by stomach tube

**6.** Insulin, calcium preparation, antihistaminic drugs

**7.** Purgative

**8.** Diuretic or catheterization

### ❖ Prognosis

1. Good if the animal remains standing
2. Recovery occurring in 2 - 4 days
3. Recumbency is usually followed by fatal uremia and septicemia.

### ❖ Control

1. Reduce the grain ration to half on rest day and when the horse is getting no exercise
2. Daily exercise to minimize the disease

## Diseases of muscles

### 1-myasthenia:

is skeletal muscle asthenia(weakness)  
inflammatory(myositis) and non inflammatory  
(myopathy)

### General causes of myoathenia:

- 1-Ischemia e.g iliac thrombosis in horse
- 2-Metabolic effect on muscle fiber e.g hypo k hypo ca
- 3-nutritinal cause e.g vit E&SE deficiency
- 4- general toxemia and many plant toxins
- 5-F.M.D ,Black leg and Blue tounge

### MYOPATHY

Non inflammatory degenerative change cch by muscle weakness, hyaline degeneration in muscle fiber, myoglobinuria and biochemical elevation of some muscle enzymes e.g

CPK

Aspartate aminotransferase

### causes of myopathy

- 1-nutritional deficiency of vit E and SE
- 2- post exercise rhabdomyolysis occure as in equine paralytic myoglobinurea
- 3-Equine atypical myopathy cause by hypoglycin
- 4-Metabolic:hyperkalemic periodic paralysis in equine
- 5-Inherited myopathies

## **Pathogenesis**

1-hyaline degeneration and coagulative necrosis

2-sudden death as in acute form of vit E and se deficiency

3-muscle weakness,pain, recumbancy, stiffgait and inability to move

4-myoglobinuria (dark brown urin ) e.g azoturea

5-elevation of muscle enzymes as CPK

## **Clinical signs**

1-sudden onset of muscle weakness

2-normal body temperature or slight elevated in sever cases

3-animal apper to be in pain but remain alert

4 respiratory and circulatory insufficiency

5-myoglbinuria and myoglobinemia

6-tachycardia and irregularity

7-death in 24 h

## **Treatment**

-complete rest of animal

-pain killer

-treatment of systemic change

-fluid therapy

-nutrition correction