



# **MJF College of **Veterinary**** **&** **Animal Sciences, Jaipur.**

## **SURGICAL AFFECTION OF TAIL AND DOCKING**

**Dr. Kuldeep**  
**Assistant Professor**  
**MJFCVAS, CHOMU**

- Tail is composed of vertebrae, muscle, fascia and skin.
- The no. of coccygeal vertebrae varies in species
- Middle coccygeal artery and lateral coccygeal vein located
- A paralysed tail is abnormally flexible.

## TRAUMATIC INJURIES:-

- Open wound occurs as a result of trauma.
- The wound should be treated on general principles.
- The coccygeal vertebrae may get fractured or dislocated.
- Injuries near the sacrococcygeal joint may cause paralysis

- Tail should be amputated in complete paralysis.
- Found in all species but more in buffaloes.
- Exact aetiology not known but multiple fracture.
- The lesion is due to some form of trauma
- Other fracture include concrete floor, close confinement, hot season and large body weight.

- Predispose to greater risk of trauma and infection.
- Thickening and fissuring of the epidermis.
- Secondary bacterial infection produce necrosis
- Microbiological examination show mixed infection.
- In mild cases dry necrosis and loss of hair to the tip.

- In severe cases complication like arthritis, multiple abscessation and gangrene cause toxaemia and death.
- TREATMENT:-
- Affected part cleaned with antiseptic creams are used
- Parenteral administration of antibiotic.
- In severe cases amputation required.

# Amputation of tail by tourniquet



# Bandage applied after amputation





# Gangrenous tail



- AMPUTATION OF TAIL :

- Indication:-

- Irreparable injuries of tail like fracture, necrosis or gangrene, paralysis
- Improve appearance in dog.
- Tourniquet applied at base of tail.
- The exact point of disarticulation is determined by palpation.

- Aseptic preparation of area.
- Semi-circular incision is given on dorsal or ventral surface of tail.
- The incision placed distal coccygeal joint to be disarticulated.
- Tourniquet may be loosened to identify the vessels.
- Tail is disarticulated by transection.
- Haemostasis checked by loosening tourniquet.
- Simple interrupted and horizontal mattress.

DOCKING OF TAIL

## Caudectomy in puppies

---

- Age : 3-5 days
- Does not require anesthesia
- Healing is uncomplicated
- Some specific area :  $2/3^{\text{rd}}$  in Terrier,  $1/3^{\text{rd}}$  in Cocker spaniel,  $1/2^{\text{rd}}$  Foodle and leave only 2 coccygeal vertebrae in Doberman.

## Procedure:

---

- ❑ Clip and aseptically prepare tail.



- ❑ Retract skin proximally and clamp tail.





## Cont...

- Immobilise the tail



- Palpate the desired transection site.
- Transect the tail between adjacent caudal vertebrae.



Amputation

## Cont...

---



- Extend the retracted skin over the remaining tail, assess the tail length and resect more if necessary.
- Appose skin edge with 2 or 3 sutures.