Diagnosis and Management of Chronic Wound in Dog- A Case Report

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Abstract

A 4 months old desi dog was presented to Veterinary clinic with a history of non-healing wound in the neck. On clinical examination it was found that there was a foreign body causing chronic wound, which was successfully removed under general anaesthesia and patient had uneventful recovery by a combination therapy of anti-inflammatory and antibiotics.

Key words : Foreign body, chronic wound, dog

A chronic wound is defined as a wound that fails to heal over 3 weeks with standard wound care (Olsson et al., 2019; Swanson et al., 2014). Factors that interfere with wound healing may be divided by source into physical, endogenous, and exogenous categories (Skorkowska et al., 2013). Identification of the cause may include complete history and diagnostics. Some characteristics of chronic wound cause by foreign body include draining tracts and partially responsive wounds. These wounds will have a granulomatous lining and a rounded epithelial edge - a wound trying to heal. Discharge varies from serous to purulent. Foreign bodies can result from penetrating stick injuries, gauze swabs, teeth, etc. Devitalised bone and non-absorbable suture material can also act as a foreign body (Langemo et al., 2007). This case report describes the chronic wound in the neck of dog cause by foreign body.

Case History and Observations

A 4 months old desi dog of 8 kilogram body weight was brought to the Veterinary clinic with history of chronic wound. Earlier the Treatment was done by the owner for around 5 weeks but the wound failed to heal. On clinical examination, foreign body was found inside the wound. The foreign body was made of tiny thread of 1 mm diameter (Fig.1), which was tied around the neck of dog at age of 2 months and left forgotten in the neck. As the animal grew up, the thread got tightened and penetrated the skin around neck causing chronic wound (Fig.2).

Treatment and Discussion

The animal was anaesthetized by using combination of Xylazine 1 mg/kg and Ketamine 15 mg/kg through intramuscular route respectively (Subhan et al, 2017) along with fluid therapy and was placed on lateral recumbency. The thread causing the chronic wound was removed. The affected area was shaved and cleaned with normal saline, 3% hydrogen peroxide, 5% povidone iodine thoroughly and Neosporin.

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powder was sprinkled in the wound. The skin was closed with nylon thread by simple interrupted sutures.

Post-operatively, animal was given amoxicillin and sulbactam combination injection (Amoxirum forte\(^a\), 10 mg/kg i/v) and Meloxicam (Melonex oral suspension\(^b\), 0.2 mg/kg) along with antiseptic dressing with betadine\(^c\) solution, scavon\(^d\) vet spray and kiskin\(^e\) ointment for 20 days. The wound was inspected for inflammation, swelling, drainage, seroma and any other complications. The skin sutures were removed after ten days. Antibiotic and Anti-inflammatory medicines were given intravenously and orally respectively for six days and regular dressing of surgical wound was undertaken with betadine solution, kiskin ointment and scavon vet spray.

(a,b,e)- Intas Animal Health, Ahmedabad (d)- Himalaya drug company, Bengaluru (e)- Win Medicare Pvt. Ltd., Delhi

The patient had uneventful recovery over a period of 20 days on a combination therapy of antibiotic and regular dressing.

Chronic or refractory non-healing ulcers are a critical problem in veterinary clinical practice. Wound healing passes through various stages: cleaning, cell proliferation, wound closure, and scar formation (Kozar et al., 2018). At the cleaning stage, necrotic tissue and contamination are mechanically removed and antiseptics are applied. The main rationale for using antiseptics and antimicrobial on open wounds is to prevent and treat infections and, therefore, to speed up the healing process. Infections delay healing, prevent healing, or cause the wound to deteriorate (Dow et al., 1999).

**Summary**

Successful treatment of a case of chronic wound in a 4 months old canine is described.

**References**


