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Homeopathic Management of Bovine Papillomatosis in a Calf: A Case Study

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Abstract:

Bovine Papillomatosis is a contagious skin condition of cattle characterized by wart-like proliferative growths caused by the Bovine Papillomavirus. The disease commonly affects young animals and may lead to cosmetic problems, irritation, and secondary infections. This case study describes the successful treatment of papilloma-like lesions in a 10-month-old Holstein Friesian cross calf using homeopathic remedies. The calf presented with wart-like lesions on the thigh and ventral neck region but maintained normal appetite and physiological parameters. The animal was treated with *Causticum (200C potency)* and *Acid Nitricum (200C potency)*. Gradual regression of lesions was observed, and complete recovery occurred within one month. The case suggests that selected homeopathic remedies may support recovery from bovine papillomatosis without adverse effects with cost effective.

Introduction:

Bovine Papillomatosis is a viral dermatological disease affecting cattle worldwide. The disease is caused by infection with the Bovine Papillomavirus, which induces benign epithelial tumors known as papilloma's or warts (Campo, 2006; Nasir & Campo, 2008). These growths typically appear on the skin of the head, neck, teats, shoulders, and limbs (Radostits *et al*., 2007). Young cattle are more susceptible to infection because of their developing immune system. Transmission usually occurs through direct contact, contaminated equipment, or minor skin abrasions (Constable *et al*., 2017). Although the disease is often self-limiting, extensive lesions can cause irritation, bleeding, secondary bacterial infection, and reduced market value of animals (Maeda *et al.*, 2021). Various treatment methods such as surgical removal, autogenous vaccines, and supportive therapy have been reported. In recent years, complementary approaches such as homeopathy have been explored for managing papillomatosis in animals (Schoen & Wynn, 2018). This case study documents the successful use of homeopathic therapy in treating papillomatous lesions in a young calf.

Case History:

A 10-month-old Holstein Friesian cross calf was presented with multiple wart-like growths on the thigh region and ventral neck area. The lesions appeared as raised, rough, and irregular masses resembling papilloma's. The duration of the condition was approximately several weeks prior to examination.

Clinical examination revealed:

- Normal body temperature
- Normal respiratory and heart rate
- Normal feeding behaviour and appetite
- No signs of systemic illness

The lesions were localized to the skin and did not interfere with the animal's feeding or movement. Based on the clinical appearance of the lesions, the condition was diagnosed as bovine papillomatosis.

Treatment Protocol:

The calf was treated with homeopathic medicines as follows:

Medicine	Potency	Purpose
Causticum	200C	Traditionally used for wart-like growths and skin lesions
Acid Nitricum	200C	Used for papillomatous and ulcerative skin conditions

- The remedies were administered according to standard homeopathic dosing practices.
- No additional medications or surgical procedures were used during the treatment period.

Results and Observations:

Progressive improvement was observed after treatment initiation.

Week 1:

- Slight reduction in size and firmness of the lesions
- No new wart development

Week 2–3:

- Visible shrinkage of papillomatous growths
- Some lesions started drying and detaching from the skin

Week 4:

- Complete regression of most lesions
- Skin returned to near-normal appearance

Throughout the treatment period, the calf maintained normal appetite, activity, and physiological parameters.

Discussion:

Bovine Papillomatosis is generally considered a self-limiting condition; however, severe cases may persist for several months **(Radostits *et al.*, 2007)**. Treatment options including surgical excision,

cryotherapy, and vaccination have been used with varying success **(Nasir & Campo, 2008)**. Homeopathic remedies such as *Causticum* and *Acid Nitricum* are traditionally indicated for wart-like skin lesions and epithelial proliferations **(Schoen & Wynn, 2018)**.

In this case, the administration of these remedies was associated with gradual regression of papillomas within one month. The treatment was simple, non-invasive, and did not cause any observable adverse reactions. Although spontaneous recovery cannot be completely ruled out, the rapid regression observed after treatment suggests a potential beneficial effect of the homeopathic remedies. Further controlled studies with a larger number of animals are needed to evaluate the efficacy of these treatments scientifically.

Conclusion:

This case study demonstrates successful recovery of a calf affected by bovine papillomatosis following treatment with *Causticum 200C* and *Acid Nitricum 200C*. The lesions completely regressed within one month without complications. The findings indicate that homeopathic therapy may be considered a supportive treatment option for managing papillomatous lesions in cattle.

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