A Pictorial Review of Injuries and Disease Conditions in Foreign and Part-Barb Horses in Northern Nigeria: Part I

1W.P. Mshelia, 2A.M. Abdussamad, 3Y.J. Atuman, 4S.M. Samdi and 5G. Kwanashie
1Department of Veterinary Surgery and Medicine, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria
2National Veterinary Research Institute Diagnostic Laboratory Bauchi, Nigeria
3National Trypanosomosis Research Institute, Kaduna, Nigeria
4Department of Animal Science, Faculty of Agriculture, Bayero University, Kano, Nigeria
5Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Ahmadu Bello University Zaria, Nigeria

Abstract: Injuries and selected disorders in indigenous and foreign horses used for polo, racing and pleasure horses were reviewed pictorially. This first ever pictorial review in Nigeria reflected multiple equine health problems commonly found in northern Nigeria which comprises clinical cases and post mortem lesions. These have become an important source of wastage in the equine industry in Nigeria.

Keywords: Injury, horses, disorders, wastage, equine, welfare

INTRODUCTION

Horse adaptation for elastic energy savings, which is surpassed only by the camel, the breathing which seems to be driven by the bending and extension of the back (Young et al., 1992) and the remarkable sophistication the hoof (Thomason et al., 1992) has made the horses to be of high value to man (Alexander, 2001). The high value of horses has increased their risk for injury and some disorders. Horses involved in polo and racing have a high chance of sustaining sporting related injuries that are traumatic than pleasure horses, though pleasure horses have a high chance of suffering automobile accidents and mere abuse from local handlers and children (Mshelia et al., 2009).

Diseases and disorders like secondary sinusitis (Fig. 1), traumatic injuries (Fig. 2), gonitis (Fig. 3), Congested lungs (Fig. 4), intestinal adhesion (Fig. 5), fecalith (Fig. 6, 7), osteomalacia (Fig. 8), fractures (Fig. 9), tick infestation (Fig. 10), pastern dermatitis (Fig. 11), squamous cell carcinoma (Fig. 12), photodermatitis (Fig. 13), dermal papillomas (Fig. 14), laminitis (Fig. 15), diaphragmatic hernia (Fig. 16), polyneuritis equi (Fig. 17), colic (Fig. 32), tick infestation (Fig. 18), gastriphilitus (Fig. 19), injuries around the masseter muscle (Fig. 20), tracheal exudate (Fig. 21), osteodystrophy fibrosa (Fig. 22), carpal hygroma (Fig. 23), abscess (Fig. 24), ulcerative lymphangiitis (Fig. 25), dermatomyositis (Fig. 26), African horse sickness (Fig. 27), injury of the pectoral muscle (Fig. 28), pirolasmosis (Fig. 29), tetanus (Fig. 30), injury of the limb (Fig. 31), colic (Fig. 32), granulomatous growth (Fig. 33) are on record in various stables, individual equine practices and very few local

Corresponding Author: W.P. Mshelia, Department of Veterinary Surgery and Medicine, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria
Tel: +234-8036372335, +234-8091309972
Fig. 1: Secondary Sinusitis

Fig. 2: Traumatic Injury of the cranial aspect of the thigh as a result of Automobile accident

Fig. 3: Gonitis in an Argentine-Part-Brb Filly as a result of a kick from a mare

Fig. 4: Congested lungs in Part-Brb stallion at post mortem
Fig. 5: Intestinal Adhesion as a result of Fibrin Formation

Fig. 6: Fecalith in situ, which ruptured and led to peritonitis in a 9 year Part-Arab stallion

Fig. 7: Fecalith after removal from colon

Fig. 8: A suspected case of osteomalacia
Fig. 9: Chip fracture of the tuber coxae

Fig. 10: Tick infestation of caudal pastern area

Fig. 11: Pastern dermatitis

Fig. 12: Squamous cell carcinoma involving superior eye lid in 9 year old part Arab with intact eye
Fig. 13: Photodermatitis albino Polo Stallion

Fig. 14: Dermal papilloma

Fig. 15: Laminitis

Fig. 16: Diaphragmatic hernia
Fig. 17: Polyneuritis equi; distended bladder and rectum in a 10 year old Part-Arab racing horse

Fig. 18: Tick infestation at the base of the tail

Fig. 19: Gastrophilus in the stomach

Fig. 20: Traumatic injury around the masseter as a result of automobile accident
Fig. 21: Exudate in trachea

Fig. 22: Osteodystrophia fibrosa (big head disease)

Fig. 23: Hygroma of the carpal joint with a bent knee

Fig. 24: Abscess as result of intramuscular injection
Fig. 25: Ulcerative lymphangitis

Fig. 26: Dermatomycosis

Fig. 27: African Horse Sickness (AHS) Vaccine failure-edema of supnorbital fossa, Nasal and ocular discharges

Fig. 28: Traumatic injury of the pectoral region as a result of automobile accident in a pleasure horse
Fig. 29: Emaciation in a horse with chronic Piroplasmosis with a body score 2

Fig. 30: A case of tetanus

Fig. 31: Injury of the right forelimb
scientific journals in Northern Nigeria (Mshelia et al., 2008a, b, 2009; Kwanashie and Abdullahi, 1992; Useh et al., 2005; Sambo et al., 2008; Okege, 1977; Addo, 1980; Oladosu et al., 1993; Folorunso et al., 2008).

Single equine health problems have been reported in Northern Nigeria by Mshelia et al. (2008a), Kwanashie (1983), Addo (1980) and Okege (1977), while multiple health problems was also reported by Alhaji (1975).

Similarly, at international level also a number of equine health problems in equine populations have been reported. However, most of these studies dealt with single health problems (Prescott et al., 1984; Dunsmore and Jue Sue, 1985; Rossdale et al., 1985; Bell and Lowe, 1986; Brostrom et al., 1987; Traub-Dargtz et al., 1988; Sandgren et al., 1993; Cohen et al., 1994). This is the first pictorial review on equine health problems in Nigeria aimed at initiating a study on the prevalence of equine disorders in the nearest future.

**CONCLUSIONS AND CLINICAL RELEVANCE**

Considering the fact that no equine animal health monitoring and surveillance system has been developed in any country on either a state or national level (Kaneene et al., 1997), it has become imperative to initiate a review like this in order to stir up research in study of risk factors and prevalence of injuries and disorders in horses with the sole objective of developing and implementing strategies towards prevention of injuries and death in horses in the Nigerian Equestrian Industry.

These are important sources of wastage to the equine industry (Jeffcott et al., 1982) and raised similar concerns for animal welfare (Hopes, 1984).
REFERENCES


