

Evaluating the effect of oxytocin or carbetocin combined with flunixin meglumine administration and uterine lavage on the treatment of persistent-breeding induced endometritis in Dare-shuri mares

Mohammad Hamedanipour¹, Naser Shams Esfandabadi^{2*}, Ali Kadivar³, Ebrahim Ahmadi⁴ and Najmeh Davoodian⁴

¹ DVSc Student of Theriogenology, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Shahrekord University, Shahrekord, Iran

² Professor, Department of Clinical Sciences, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Shahrekord University, Shahrekord, Iran and Professor, Research Institute of Animal Embryo Technology, Shahrekord University, Shahrekord, Iran

³ Associate Professor, Department of Clinical Sciences, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Shahrekord University, Shahrekord, Iran and Associate Professor, Research Institute of Animal Embryo Technology, Shahrekord University, Shahrekord, Iran

⁴ Associate Professor, Research Institute of Animal Embryo Technology, Shahrekord University, Shahrekord, Iran

Received: 02.10.2024

Accepted: 21.11.2024

Abstract

Persistent-breeding induced endometritis (PBIE) as the third most common disease in mares is a leading reason for infertility. Some mares do not respond effectively to traditional treatments including uterine lavage, and administration of antibiotics, anti-inflammatories, and ecbolic agents. This study explored the combined use of oxytocin and carbetocin with flunixin meglumine for treating PBIE in Dareh Shouri mares. The study involved 45 Dareh Shouri mares with PBIE. Treatment group1: mares were treated with oxytocin, flunixin meglumine, and uterine lavage with normal saline (15); treatment group2: mares were treated with carbetocin, flunixin meglumine, and uterine lavage with normal saline (15); and control, only uterine lavage with normal saline (15). Cytology samples were collected post-ovulation and pre-treatment to confirm endometritis. Pregnancy rates were assessed via ultrasonography 14 days post-ovulation. Results indicated a significantly higher pregnancy rate in the carbetocin-treated group (86%) and oxytocin-treated group (66%). A significant correlation was found between pregnancy outcomes and factors such as uterine edema, follicle size, and the interval between mating and ovulation. This study highlights the potential effectiveness of using oxytocin and carbetocin with flunixin meglumine for treating PBIE in Dareh Shouri mares, though further research is necessary for definitive conclusions.

Key words: Persistent Breeding-Induced Endometritis, Carbetocin, Oxytocin, Flunixin meglumine, Dareh Shouri Mares

* **Corresponding Author:** Naser Shams Esfandabadi, Professor, Department of Clinical Sciences, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Shahrekord University, Shahrekord, Iran and Professor, Research Institute of Animal Embryo Technology, Shahrekord University, Shahrekord, Iran
E-mail: shams-n@sku.ac.ir



© 2020 by the authors. Licensee SCU, Ahvaz, Iran. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International (CC BY-NC 4.0 license) (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/>).

References

- Brito, L., & Barth, A. (2003). Endometritis in mares. *Large Animal Veterinary Rounds*, 3(9).
- Bucca, S., Carli, A., Buckley, T., Dolci, G., & Fogarty, U. (2008). The use of dexamethasone administered to mares at breeding time in the modulation of persistent mating induced endometritis. *Theriogenology*, 70(7), 1093-1100.
- Buczowska, J., Kozdrowski, R., Sikora, M., Dziecioł, M., & Matusz, A. (2015). Non-traditional treatments for endometritis in mares. *Bulgarian Journal of Veterinary Medicine*, 18(4).
- Canisso, I. F., Segabinazzi, L. G., & Fedorka, C. E. (2020). Persistent breeding-induced endometritis in mares— A multifaceted challenge: From clinical aspects to immunopathogenesis and pathobiology. *International journal of molecular sciences*, 21(4), 1432.
- Christoffersen, M., Woodward, E., Bojesen, A., Petersen, M., Squires, E., Lehn-Jensen, H., & Troedsson, M. (2012). Effect of immunomodulatory therapy on the endometrial inflammatory response to induced infectious endometritis in susceptible mares. *Theriogenology*, 78(5), 991-1004.
- Combs, G.B., LeBlanc, M.M., Neuwirth, L., Tran, T.Q. (1996). Effects of prostaglandin F2 [alpha], cloprostenol and fenprostalene on uterine clearance of radiocolloid in the mare. *Theriogenology*, 45, 1449-1455.
- de Amorim, M. D., Bramer, S. A., Rajamanickam, G. D., Klein, C., & Card, C. (2023). Serum progesterone and oxytocinase, and endometrial and luteal gene expression in pregnant, nonpregnant, oxytocin, carbetocin and meclofenamic acid treated mares. *Theriogenology*, 198, 47-60.
- Del Prete, C., Montano, C., Cocchia, N., de Chiara, M., Gasparrini, B., & Pasolini, M. P. (2024). Use of regenerative medicine in the treatment of endometritis in mares: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Theriogenology*.
- Del Prete, C., Nocera, F. P., Piegari, G., Palumbo, V., De Martino, L., Cocchia, N., Paciello, O., Montano, C., & Pasolini, M. P. (2024). Use of cytobrush for bacteriological and cytological diagnosis of endometritis in mares. *Veterinary World*, 17(2), 398.
- Donnelly, C. G., Sones, J. L., Dockweiler, J. C., Norberg, L. A., Norberg, L. E., Cheong, S. H., & Gilbert, R. O. (2019). Effects of flunixin meglumine on postponement of ovulation in mares. *American journal of veterinary research*, 80(3), 306-310.
- Fedorka, C., Scoggin, K., Boakari, Y., Hoppe, N., Squires, E., Ball, B., & Troedsson, M. (2018). The anti-inflammatory effect of exogenous lactoferrin on breeding-induced endometritis when administered post-breeding in susceptible mares. *Theriogenology*, 114, 63-69.
- Grabowska, A., & Kozdrowski, R. (2022). Relationship between estrus endometrial edema and progesterone production in pregnant mares two weeks after ovulation. *BMC Veterinary Research*, 18(1), 414.
- Gutjahr, S., Paccamonti, D., Pycock, J., Taverne, M., Dieleman, S., & Van der Weijden, G. (2000). Effect of dose and day of treatment on uterine response to oxytocin in mares. *Theriogenology*, 54(3), 447-456.
- Holleboom, C., Van Eyck, J., Koenen, S., Kreuwel, I., Bergwerff, F., Creutzberg, E., & Bruinse, H. (2013). Carbetocin in comparison with oxytocin in several dosing regimens for the prevention of uterine atony after elective caesarean section in the Netherlands. *Archives of gynecology and obstetrics*, 287, 1111-1117.
- Hurtgen, J. P. (2006). Pathogenesis and treatment of endometritis in the mare: a review. *Theriogenology*, 66(3), 560-566.
- Khan, Y., El-Shalofy, A., Kaps, M., Gautier, C., & Aurich, C. (2024). In mares resistant to endometrial infection, periovulatory treatment with ecbolic drugs does not influence uterine clearance or luteal development. *Animal Reproduction Science*, 107548.
- LeBlanc, M. (2010). Advances in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Chronic Infectious and Post-Mating-Induced Endometritis in the Mare. *Reproduction in domestic animals*, 45, 21-27.
- LeBlanc, M., & Causey, R. (2009). Clinical and subclinical endometritis in the mare: both threats to fertility. *Reproduction in Domestic Animals*, 44, 10-22.
- LeBLANC, M., Neuwirth, L., Mauragis, D., Klapstein, E., & Tran, T. (1994). Oxytocin enhances clearance of radiocolloid from the uterine lumen of reproductively normal mares and mares susceptible to endometritis. *Equine veterinary journal*, 26(4), 279-282.

- Liu, I., & Troedsson, M. (2008). The diagnosis and treatment of endometritis in the mare: Yesterday and today. *Theriogenology*, *70*(3), 415-420.
- MacAllister, C. G., Morgan, S. J., Borne, A. T., & Pollet, R. A. (1993). Comparison of adverse effects of phenylbutazone, flunixin meglumine, and ketoprofen in horses. *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association*, *202*(1), 71-77.
- Mateu-Sánchez, S., Newcombe, J., Garcés-Narro, C., & Cuervo-Arango, J. (2016). The period of the follicular phase during which the uterus of mares shows estrus-like echotexture influences the subsequent pregnancy rate. *Theriogenology*, *86*(6), 1506-1515.
- McKinnon, A. O., Squires, E. L., Vaala, W. E., & Varner, D. D. (2011). *Equine reproduction*. John Wiley & Sons.
- Morris, L. H., McCue, P., & Aurich, C. (2020). Equine endometritis: A review of challenges and new approaches. *Reproduction*, *160*(5), R95-R110.
- Nazem, Y., Shams Esfandabadi, N., Kadivar, A., Davoodian, N., & Nazari, H. (2023). Evaluation the prevalence of persistent post-mating endometritis in Arabian mares. *Iranian Journal of Veterinary Clinical Sciences*, *17*(1), 71-79.
- Nie, G.J., Johnson, K.E., Wenzel, J.G., Braden, T.D. (2003). Effect of administering oxytocin or cloprostenol in the periovulatory period on pregnancy outcome and luteal function in mares. *Theriogenology*, *60*: 1111-1118.
- Pycock, J., & Allen, W. (1990). Inflammatory components in uterine fluid from mares with experimentally induced bacterial endometritis. *Equine veterinary journal*, *22*(6), 422-425.
- Rasch, K., Schoon, H., Sieme, H., & Klug, E. (1996). Histomorphological endometrial status and influence of oxytocin on the uterine drainage and pregnancy rate in mares. *Equine veterinary journal*, *28*(6), 455-460.
- Riddle, W., LeBlanc, M., & Stromberg, A. (2007). Relationships between uterine culture, cytology and pregnancy rates in a Thoroughbred practice. *Theriogenology*, *68*(3), 395-402.
- Risco, A., Reilas, T., Muilu, L., Kareskoski, M., & Katila, T. (2009). Effect of oxytocin and flunixin meglumine on uterine response to insemination in mares. *Theriogenology*, *72*(9), 1195-1201.
- Rogan, D., Fumuso, E., Rodriguez, E., Wade, J., & Bruni, S. S. (2007). Use of a mycobacterial cell wall extract (MCWE) in susceptible mares to clear experimentally induced endometritis with *Streptococcus zooepidemicus*. *Journal of Equine Veterinary Science*, *27*(3), 112-117.
- Santos, V.G., Castro, T., Bettencourt, E.M., & Ginther O.J. . (2015). Oxytocin induction of pulses of a prostaglandin metabolite and luteolysis in mares. *Theriogenology*, *83*, 730-738.
- Schramme, A., Pinto, C., Davis, J., Whisnant, C., & Whitacre, M. (2008). Pharmacokinetics of carbetocin, a long-acting oxytocin analogue, following intravenous administration in horses. *Equine veterinary journal*, *40*(7), 658-661.
- Scoggin, C. F. (2016). Endometritis: nontraditional therapies. *Veterinary Clinics: Equine Practice*, *32*(3), 499-511.
- Steckler, D., Naidoo, V., Gerber, D., & Kähn, W. (2012). Ex vivo influence of carbetocin on equine myometrial muscles and comparison with oxytocin. *Theriogenology*, *78*(3), 502-509.
- Talebkhani Garoussi, M., Soleymani, M., Salehi Zahraei, T., & Gharagozloo, F. (2023). The survey of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* infection of reproduction system of mares in both Suburb of Tehran and Alborz provinces of Iran. *Iranian Veterinary Journal*, *18*(4), 59-66.
- Traub-Dargatz, J., Salman, M., & Voss, J. (1991). Medical problems of adult horses, as ranked by equine practitioners. *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association*, *198*(10), 1745-1747.
- Troedsson, M. (1999). Uterine clearance and resistance to persistent endometritis in the mare. *Theriogenology*, *52*(3), 461-471.
- Troedsson, M. H. (2006). Breeding-induced endometritis in mares. *Veterinary Clinics: Equine Practice*, *22*(3), 705-712.
- Troedsson, M. H., & Woodward, E. M. (2016). Our current understanding of the pathophysiology of equine endometritis with an emphasis on breeding-induced endometritis. *Reproductive biology*, *16*(1), 8-12.
- Zent, W. W., Troedsson, M. H., & Xue, J.-L. (1998). Postbreeding uterine fluid accumulation in a normal population of Thoroughbred mares: a field study. *Proc Am Assoc Equine Pract*, *44*, 64-65.