

Treatment of Periocular Warts in a Cow Using Homeopathic Medicine Thuja Occidentalis Mother Tincture

Dr. Amal Babu TS¹, Dr. Dhana Sekar C², Dr. Indu P³

¹ PG Scholar, Department of Organon of Medicine & Homoeopathic Philosophy, White Memorial Homoeopathic Medical College & Hospital, (Affiliated to The Tamil Nadu Dr. M. G. R. Medical University) Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu - 629177

² PG Scholar, Department of Organon of Medicine & Homoeopathic Philosophy, White Memorial Homoeopathic Medical College & Hospital, (Affiliated to The Tamil Nadu Dr. M. G. R. Medical University) Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu - 629177

³ Professor, Department of Organon of Medicine & Homoeopathic Philosophy, White Memorial Homoeopathic Medical College & Hospital, (Affiliated to The Tamil Nadu Dr. M. G. R. Medical University) Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu - 629177

Abstract: Bovine papillomatosis, a condition caused by the bovine papillomavirus (BPV), manifests as warts on the skin and mucous membranes of cattle, leading to discomfort and potential vision impairment. This case study explores the successful treatment of periocular warts in a 3-year-old Domestic cow using the homeopathic remedy Thuja mother tincture. The cow, presenting with multiple wart-like growths around both eyes, received an oral dosage of 10 drops of Thuja mother tincture mixed with 20ml water twice daily for four weeks. Significant improvements were observed, including a substantial reduction in wart size and number, and eventual resolution of the periocular warts. The cow's vision and overall comfort markedly improved over the treatment period. This case illustrates the potential efficacy of Thuja as a non-invasive, cost-effective alternative to conventional treatments such as surgical removal, cryotherapy, and autogenous vaccines. The results suggest that Thuja's antiviral and immune-modulating properties can effectively manage bovine papillomatosis, offering a valuable complementary approach in veterinary medicine. Further research and clinical trials are recommended to validate and understand the broader applications of homeopathic remedies in livestock health management.

Keywords: BPV, Homoeopathy, Warts, Thuja Occidentalis, Cow, Periocular

1. Introduction

Bovine papillomatosis is a common condition in cattle caused by the bovine papillomavirus (BPV), resulting in the formation of warts or papillomas on the skin and mucous membranes. These warts can cause discomfort and interfere with essential functions such as vision, feeding, and mobility. This case presentation details the treatment of a Holstein cow with warts around both eyes using the homeopathic medicine Thuja mother tincture. ⁽³⁾

Bovine Papillomavirus and Bovine Papillomatosis

Bovine Papillomavirus (BPV)

BPV is a member of the Papillomaviridae family and is responsible for causing papillomas in cattle. Several types of BPV (such as BPV - 1, BPV - 2, and BPV - 5) are commonly associated with cutaneous and mucosal papillomas in cattle. ⁽¹⁾

- **Transmission:** BPV is typically transmitted through direct contact with infected animals or fomites. The virus enters the skin through minor abrasions or microtraumas.
- **Pathogenesis:** BPV infects the basal layer of epithelial cells, integrating its DNA into the host cell genome. This leads to cellular proliferation and the formation of warts, characterized by hyperplasia of epithelial cells. Although the warts are generally benign, in rare cases they may undergo malignant transformation. ⁽²⁾

2. Clinical Manifestations

- **Cutaneous Warts:** Firm, nodular growths on the skin that can vary in size from small, inconspicuous nodules to large, pendulous masses.
- **Ocular Papillomas:** Warts around the eyes can cause conjunctivitis, corneal ulcers, and vision impairment due to obstruction or irritation.
- **Oral Papillomas:** These are less common but can interfere with feeding if present within the oral cavity.

3. Case Description

Patient History

A 3-year-old Domestic cow was presented with multiple wart-like growths around both eyes. These warts had been progressively increasing in size and number over the past three months. The owner reported that the cow had difficulty seeing, especially in the left eye, and exhibited signs of discomfort and irritation.

Initial Examination

The cow was alert and had a good body condition score of 4/5, indicating good overall health despite the presence of warts. Upon closer examination:

- **Eyes:** Multiple papillomas around both periocular areas, with the left eye more severely affected. These warts were causing partial obstruction of vision and significant irritation.
- **Skin:** The cow had additional small warts on the neck and udder, but these were less severe and not causing major discomfort.

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- **Behaviour:** The cow showed signs of discomfort, frequently shaking its head and rubbing its eyes against surfaces.

Diagnosis

Based on the clinical presentation and characteristic appearance of the warts, a diagnosis of bovine papillomatosis was made. The distinct nature and location of the lesions were consistent with those caused by BPV. Further laboratory testing was not deemed necessary due to the clear clinical picture.

Treatment Plan

Therapeutic Approach

After examining the cow thoroughly, the decision was made to treat the cow with Thuja mother tincture, a homeopathic remedy renowned for its efficacy in treating warts and other skin conditions. Thuja occidentalis is derived from the white cedar tree and has been used in both human and veterinary homeopathy. ⁽⁴⁾

Dosage and Administration

Thuja Mother Tincture (*Thuja occidentalis*): 10 drops of the tincture were administered orally twice daily mixed with little amount of water (20ml approx.).

Duration

The treatment was continued for four weeks.

Follow - Up and Outcome

The cow was monitored weekly to evaluate changes in the size and number of warts. Photographs and measurements of the warts were taken at each visit to document the progression.

Week - By - Week Progress

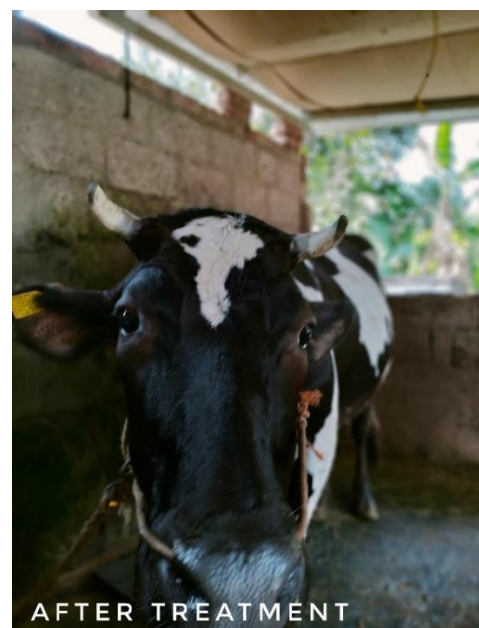
Week 1: Slight reduction in the size of smaller warts. Larger warts around the eyes remained unchanged.

Week 2: Noticeable reduction in both size and number of warts. The cow appeared more comfortable and less irritated.

Week 3: Continued regression of periocular warts. Improvement in vision noted as warts reduced in size.

Week 4: Almost complete resolution of warts, with only a few small nodules remaining. The cow's vision and overall comfort improved markedly.

Photos Of Improvement



4. Discussion

The use of Thuja mother tincture in this case illustrates its potential as an effective treatment for bovine papillomatosis, especially for warts around sensitive areas like the eyes. Thuja occidentalis is believed to have antiviral and immune - modulating properties, contributing to its effectiveness in resolving warts caused by BPV.

Mechanism of Action

In homeopathy, Thuja is thought to stimulate the body's vital force, aiding in the elimination of warts. Dr Samuel Hahnemann also indicate thuja as an external application for warts. Thuja may enhance immune responses and exert direct antiviral effects against BPV. ⁽⁵⁾

Comparative Treatments

Conventional treatments for bovine papillomatosis include surgical removal of warts, cryotherapy, and the use of autogenous vaccines. These methods can be invasive, costly, and sometimes ineffective in preventing recurrence. Thuja mother tincture offers a non - invasive, cost - effective alternative with minimal side effects, making it an attractive option for managing this condition.

5. Conclusion

This case highlights the successful use of Thuja mother tincture in treating periocular warts in a cow with bovine papillomatosis. The cow exhibited significant improvement, with a substantial reduction and eventual resolution of warts over a four - week treatment period. This case supports the potential role of homeopathic remedies in veterinary medicine, offering an alternative or complementary approach to conventional treatments. Further research and clinical trials are recommended to better understand the efficacy and mechanisms of homeopathic treatments in livestock.

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