

THERAPEUTIC MANAGEMENT OF TRICHOMONIASIS IN GOLDEN YELLOW MACAW

Assan Kasim M¹ and Pradeep R¹

¹Department of Wildlife Science,
Madras Veterinary College, TANUVAS, Tamil Nadu
E-mail: assankasimwildlifvet@gmail.com (*Corresponding Author)

Abstract: A four years old golden yellow macaw was brought to the Pet clinic with a history of whitish colour spot on the left eye for a past one month. After proper restraint, physical examination was carried out. Whitish spots were observed on the left eye. Oral cavity examination revealed that flakes present on the upper beak with fowl odour. Samples were collected from the lesions using moistened microbiology swab. The diagnosis of *Trichomoniasis spp* was confirmed by observing on wet-mount preparation of samples. The bird was managed with the metronidazole at the dose rate of 10-30 mg per Kg body weight through the oral route for three days. After seven days, the bird was recovered from the clinical condition.

Keywords: Trichomoniasis, Golden yellow macaw, Metronidazole.

INTRODUCTION

Macaws are considered to be one of the most intelligent birds so that many biologists called macaws as flying primates. In recent years, psittacine bird's *esp.* macaws have become increasingly popular as pets. Health problem commonly arises in captive exotic birds due to improper care and management and lack of knowledge related to their housing pattern. Poor nutrition, stress are all potential factors in the development of infectious agents.

Clinical History and Observation

A four year old golden yellow macaw was brought to the Dr. Vet's Pet clinic, Pallavaram, Chennai with a history of whitish colour spot on the left eye for a past one month. After proper restraint, physical examination was carried out. Whitish spots were observed on the eye. Oral cavity examination revealed that flakes present in the upper beak with fowl odour. Swab was collected from the oral cavity.

Diagnosis

On observation ulcerative lesions, particularly in the oropharynx and crop, samples were collected from the lesions using microbiology swabs moistened with saline solution. Swabs were then rotated over the surface of a warm (32–35.8 C) microscope slide to produce wet

smears. Smears were examined under light microscope. The samples collected were positive for *Trichomoniasis spp* infection.

Treatment

The bird was managed with the Metronidazole oral suspension and treatment was continued for seven days. After 10 days, the bird is recovered from the clinical condition.

DISCUSSION

Clinical signs such as anorexia, dysphagia, weight loss, and dyspnea. Whitish yellow, caseous lesions adherent to the mucosa of the oropharynx, crop, and esophagus are in accordance with findings of Samour *et al.*, (2003) who stated that the Trichomoniasis infection caused white to yellow membranous or nodular caseous growths in the oropharynx and crop. The lesions in this case were found on the dorsal part of the oropharyngeal region. This was in accordance with Clyde *et al.*, (1996) who quoted that, White plaques or necrotic masses are noted in the oral cavity and esophagus and affected birds will show regurgitation.

Stadler *et al.*, (1996) state that *Trichomoniasis spp* has been treated with furazolidone, oxytetracycline, dimetridazole, and metronidazole

Usage of metronidazole treatment of trichomoniasis was for at the dose rate of 10-30 mg per kg body weight against the protozoan based on the carpenter (2012). The therapeutic effect was observed, which revealed a marked clinical improvement with regard to improvement in texture and appearance. Samour *et al.*, (2003) recommended that Oropharyngeal cavity was irrigated with warm saline and diluted povidone iodine or chlorhexidine twice daily up to two weeks as per the need.

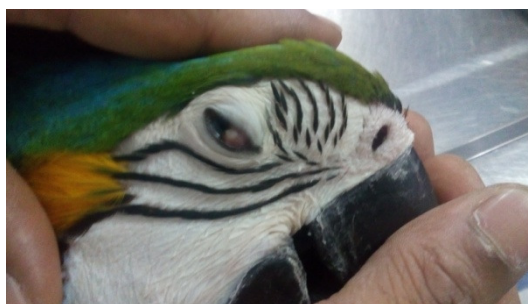
Conclusion

Avian Trichomoniasis is flagellate protozoan its mainly affects the upper gastro intestinal tract and upper respiratory tract of a range of different bird species. The species of *Trichomoniasis spp* that affects birds including: pigeons, doves, turkeys, chickens, canaries, raptors (birds of prey), various parrot species (e.g. budgerigars, cockatiels and Amazon parrots) Some severely affected birds may show many or most of these symptoms, whereas other birds may only show one or two of them and be almost asymptomatic. Budgerigars rarely develop the oral lesions. Raptors often get nasty, cheesy-looking lesions under their tongues and on their hard palates (the roof of the mouth). Over time, the *Trichomoniasis spp* organisms can destroy the hard palate and/or mandible (jaw bone). On some occasions, the *Trichomoniasis spp* organisms can even eat through the roof of the mouth and throat and into the skull and brain. Such a condition is generally fatal.

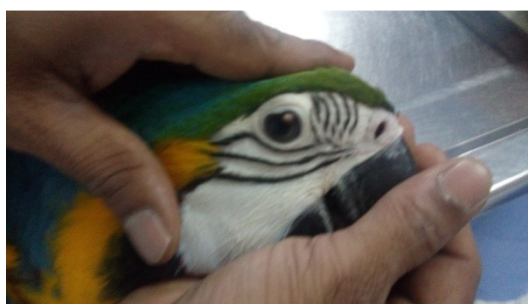
Metronidazole was used for the treatment of Trichomoniasis infection at a dose rate of 10-30 mg per kg body weight against Trichomoniasis infection and it gives the best result against flagellate protozoan infection.

References

- [1] Carpenter, J.W. (2012). *Exotic animal formulary*. Elsevier Health Sciences.
- [2] Clyde, V.L., & Patton, S. (1996, April). Diagnosis, treatment and control of common parasites in companion and aviary birds. In *Seminars in Avian and Exotic Pet Medicine* (Vol. 5, No. 2, pp. 75-84).
- [3] Stadler, C.K., & Carpenter, J.W. (1996, April). Parasites of Backyard game birds. In *Seminars in Avian and Exotic Pet Medicine* (Vol. 5, No. 2, pp. 85-96). WB Saunders.
- [4] Samour, Jaime H., and Jesus L. Naldo."Diagnosis and therapeutic management of trichomoniasis in falcons in Saudi Arabia." *Journal of avian medicine and surgery* **17.3** (2003): 136-143.



Before Treatment



After treatment

Wet mount preparation- positive for *Trichomoniasis spp*

