

Trumping Coliform Mastitis With a Royal Flush

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The mastitis flush therapy for coliform mastitis is performed by infusing an entire liter of flush formula into the affected quarter one to two times daily. Strip the quarter out approximately 10 minutes after the infusion.

Flush formulas available

1. 1000 ml. 7% saline (Hypertonic saline)
2. 1000 ml. Wydase flush
 - a. 1000 ml. 0.9% Saline
 - b. 10 ml. hyaluronidase (Wydase - Wyeth Laboratories)
 - c. 3 M units of penicillin G
 - d. 4 mgm. dexamethasone

3. 1000 ml. EDTA-TRIS flush
 - a. 1.2 gm. EDTA
 - b. 5.05 gm. Trizma base
q.s. to 1000 ml. w/ sterile water
adjust pH to 8.0 with glacial acetic acid
 - c. 4 mgm. dexamethasone (optional)
(1 ml. of glacial acetic acid will raise pH one point)

EDTA-TRIS References:

1. Wooley RE, MVP, 1983 pp. 113-116.
2. Ashworth et.al. JAVMA Vol. 197, pp. 1513-1514.
3. Burns et.al., J of Urol., Vol. 136 pp.850-852.
4. Oda et.al., Seikagaku 1989 Vol. 61 pp. 290-294.

Dairy Fashions with a Flair...The Spandex Saga Continues

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The increased availability of laptop computers has made it possible for veterinarians to conveniently carry a computer with them on calls. However, printer portability has not been nearly as handy. Even though small, lightweight printers are available, they cost more and may be less durable than standard printers. I have made a standard printer portable with the purchase of a skiing bag from Land's End. The bottom compartment is made to carry ski boots. It is perfectly sized for a typical computer printer. The top compartment is made to carry ski accessories. A laptop computer, small supply of paper, AC power supply, etc. fit very nicely into this area. Therefore, one can carry a complete computer system from farm to farm as easily as a normal veterinary grip.

My latest discovery in winter wear concerns products made of artificial fleece, namely Polartec. This material is lightweight, breathable, relatively water repellent, soft, and durable. It can be bought in different weights depending on the warmth you desire. Unfortunately, it is a tad pricey. I have been searching for a vest

made of this material but so far have had to settle for sleeve amputation of a jacket.

At the 24th Annual Convention in Orlando (Proceedings pg. 143-144) I discussed Kool-Dri Rainwear as an alternative to coveralls. A few updates need mentioning.

A product nearly identical to Kool-Dri Rainwear known as AIR WEAVE can be purchased from Gempler's. The price is \$32.75 in the summer catalog. That compares to Kool-Dri at \$39.95 in a recent Cabelas's catalog. These two products are made by different divisions of one company. There are some technical differences in manufacturing but should provide the same performance in veterinary practice. If anything, the Kool-Dri is the superior product line.

A few notes concerning care of this rainwear. When laundering, avoid hot water as the hydrophobic inner lining will de-laminate and the waterproofing is destroyed. Also, mild soaps are preferred. I have even taken the precaution of stopping the washer at the start of the spin cycle. Using these methods, I have had no

problems with my present pair which have been in regular use for 15 months.

For those looking for the support of spandex without the unmanly look, I have good news. J.C. Penney catalogs offer over-the-calf support socks containing 5% Lycra that look like regular athletic socks. They provide

plenty of lower leg support and even come in large sizes. They cost about \$4 per pair. If upper leg support is your main interest, I would suggest buying Bike compression shorts at a quality sporting goods store near you. These are the same ones worn by world-class athletes and cost around \$25.

Roll With It, Baby!

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It's late Friday night and you have just driven about one hour to a dairy which you hope will be your last call. As you're driving, you realize that you have dinner plans with friends from out of town. You calculate in your mind that taking into account the drive back, you have twenty minutes on the farm to exam and treat your last patient.

After arriving on the farm, you notice your patient in the hospital stall. She's a first calf heifer with metritis, body score 1.78, and her eyes look like two holes in the snow. As you walk the heifer to the chute to exam her, she hits you from the waist down with projectile diarrhea. Physical exam reveals a left displaced abomasum. What do you do? Your stomach growls in anticipation of prime rib for dinner.

Any dairy practitioner is faced with displaced abomasums on a regular basis even on well managed herds. I would like to discuss correction of LDA's with the roll and toggle suture technique. This method has been around for years and has received mixed reviews. The roll and tack technique is not the correction of choice in every case. It is a blind technique and carries a higher inherent risk of peritonitis than the surgical correction. However, we have had the same success rate or higher with the roll and tack technique over surgery. Advantages of the roll and tack technique include: faster than surgery, quicker recovery after correction, less expense for the client, and easier on the cow. Candidates for the roll and tack technique include virtually almost any cow or heifer. I generally recommend surgery for valuable registered animals, but I let the client make the decision. Some clients have had good success with the roll and tack method and will not pursue surgery. Prognosis with the roll and tack method decreases when the animal has been displaced for long periods or has chronic peritonitis. The abomasum will not float freely when encumbered with scar tissue.

A small amount of equipment is required to perform the roll and tack procedure. A DA tool (the tool I use is my own modification of the original), DA toggle suture, scalpel blade, casting rope, foot ropes, halter, and at least one able bodied individual besides yourself.

The beast is haltered and secured to a post allowing 10-12 feet clearance behind and to the right side of the cow. Generally speaking, I do not tranquilize the animal since their physical condition is usually compromised. Sedation seems to hinder a speedy recovery. A casting rope is secured around the animal and the animal is cast down on its right side allowing a clockwise rotation. Remember to undo the halter from the post. Bending the animal's neck to its left side will aid in casting the animal. Once the cow is in lateral recumbency, attach the foot ropes to all four feet. This keeps the operator's head intact. Gently rotate the cow to a dorsal recumbency. Make sure an assistance keeps a good hold on the casting rope. This keeps the animal restrained. Auscultate and locate the abomasum. The abomasum should be located to the right of the midline.

The site for the toggle suture placement should be a hand's width caudal to the xiphoid and a hand's width lateral and to the right of the midline. I generally do not clip the hair for the toggle suture placement. If manure is covering the hair, instead of using water and causing a liquid manure setting, I will pluck the manure coated hair from the site.

Two incisions are made thru the skin parallel to the midline, being careful not to harm any mammary veins. The DA tool is placed in the skin incision and then in a piercing motion plunged all the way to the flange on the tool. The trochar is removed leaving the canula in place. The toggle suture is threaded into the canula and pushed thru the canula with the trochar. The trochar is removed, then the canula is removed, leaving the toggle suture in place. An assistant should hold the toggle