Surgical Procedure for Duodenal Cannulation and Rumen Fistula Prosthesis in the Adult Dairy Cow

Perry S. Dahlquist, DVM
Enumclaw Veterinary Hospital
1209 Cole Street
Enumclaw, Washington 98022

Abstract

The paper describes a surgical procedure for the placement of a duodenal cannula and a rumen fistula prosthesis in an adult dairy cow.

The animals used were lactating, late gestation cows, weighing 630 to 680 kg. The procedure was performed with the cow standing in a modified Powder River chute. The surgical procedure began by placing the duodenal cannula exteriorizing it on the right side, immediately followed by placing and exteriorizing the rumen cannula (prosthesis) on the left side. An intravenous analgesic sedative, a paravertebral block, and a local anesthetic were used for sedation and analgesia.

Postoperatively, the cows were given flunixin meglumine (Banamine) and penicillin, and placed in separate stalls for daily observation and care.