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An appraisal of clinical cases handled at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, University of Maiduguri between 2001 and 2005, Borno State, Nigeria

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ABSTRACT: An appraisal of clinical cases admitted and treated at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, University of Maiduguri between 2001 and 2005 was conducted in this study. Diseases commonly encountered were parasitic, bacterial, viral, mycotic and surgical, with prevalence of 46(21.8%), 42(19.9%), 19(9.0%), 1(0.5%), and 103(48.8%) respectively ($P<0.05$). No cases were admitted during the first quarter of the year and cumulative assessment monthly indicated higher rates for September 37(17.5%), October 36(17.1%), and November 34(16.1%), with a total of 211 diseases admitted and treated all through the one- year study.

Key Words: Veterinary Clinic; Clinical cases; Veterinary Teaching Hospital; Maiduguri; Nigeria.

Introduction

Generally diseases of Veterinary importance could be classified under parasitic, bacterial, viral, mycotic, or surgical. These play a significant role in degrading animal health as a result of morbidity, mortality, and reduced production in meat, milk, wool, and leather from food animals. In the last decade interest has arisen in the survey and analysis of diseases and global approach to the problem of wastages or mortalities in animals; and in Nigeria a few preliminary studies were conducted on the prevalence and seasonal abundance of diseases of animals (Ugochukwu and Ephraim, 1985). However, there is insufficient assessment on the clinical cases handled at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, University of Maiduguri, with the primary function of admitting and treating all animal diseases presented, hence this study. This at least will help to form a basis for future epizootiological investigation.

Materials and Methods

Clinical cases handled at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, University of Maiduguri were assessed based on their prevalence and whether presented as parasitic, bacterial, viral, mycotic or surgical. Data obtained were tested statistically using the student t- test at 0.05 P- value (Dibal, 1991).

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Results

The results of this study are shown as Tables 1 and 2. Table 1 presents the prevalence of clinical diseases assessed at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, with surgical cases representing 103(48.8%) as the highest ($p<0.05$) compared to parasitic 46(21.8%), bacterial 42(19.9%), viral 19(9.0%), and mycotic 1(0.5%).

Table 2 shows the cumulative assessment of clinical cases based on the month of presentation, with majority handled in September 37(17.5%), October, 36(17.1%) and November 34(16.1%).

Table 1: Prevalence of clinical cases assessed at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, University of Maiduguri.

Clinical diseases	Yearly Prevalence					Total
	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	
Parasitic	8(32.0)	8(24.0)	11(24.4)	11(16.7)	8(18.6)	46(21.8)
Bacterial	5(20.0)	8(25.0)	6(13.3)	15(22.7)	8(19.0)	42(19.9)
Viral	3(12.0)	3(9.4)	4(8.9)	3(4.5)	6(14.0)	19(9.0)
Mycotic	0(0.0)	0(0.0)	0(0.0)	0(0.0)	1(2.3)	1(0.5)
Surgical	9(36.0)	13(40.6)	4(53.3)	37(56.1)	20(46.5)	03(48.8)
Total	25(11.8)	32(15.2)	45(21.3)	66(31.3)	43(20.4)	211(100.0)

Table 2: Cumulative five year monthly prevalence of diseases appraised at VTH, Unimaid.

MONTHS	PARASITIC	BACTERIAL	VIRAL	MYCOTIC	SURGICAL	TOTAL NO (%)
JAN.	0 (0.0%)	0(0.0%)	0(0.0%)	0(0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0(0.0%)
FEB.	0 (0.0%)	0(0.0%)	0(0.0%)	0(0.0%)	0(0.0%)	0(0.0%)
MAR	0 (0.0%)	0(0.0%)	0(0.0%)	0(0.0%)	0(0.0%)	0(0.0%)
APRIL	2 (4.3%)	1(2.4%)	1(5.3%)	0(0.0%)	6(5.8%)	10(4.7%)
MAY	3(6.5%)	3(7.1%)	2(10.5%)	0(0.0%)	11(10.7%)	19(9.0%)
JUN	8(17.4%)	6(14.3%)	2(10.5%)	1 (100%)	12(11.7%)	29(13.7)
JUL	1(2.2%)	5(11.9%)	0(0.0%)	0(0.0%)	7(6.8%)	13(6.2%)
AGU.	2 (4.3%)	3(7.1%)	2(10.5%)	0(0.0%)	4(3.9%)	11(5.2%)
SEPT.	9(19.5%)	10(23.8)	4(21.0%)	0(0.0%)	14(13.6%)	37(17.5%)
OCT	11(24.0%)	6(14.3%)	2(10.5%)	0(0.0%)	17(16.5%)	36(17.1%)
NOV.	5(10.9%)	3(7.1%)	3(15.8%)	0(0.0%)	23(22.3%)	34(16.1%)
DEC.	5(10.9%)	5(11.9%)	3(15.8%)	0(0.0%)	9(8.7%)	22(10.4%)

Discussion

Analysis of clinical diseases of animals in Maiduguri, Nigeria indicated that parasitic, bacterial, viral, mycotic and surgical cases are prevalent among different animal species. This agrees with findings by Idowu *et al.*, (1977); Ugochukwu and Nwaneri, (1984); Ugochukwu and Ephraim, (1985). The finding of higher surgical cases presented may be due to the reason that they require skilled techniques and aseptic conditions in order to successfully handle (Kumar, 2002), while the low prevalence of the other diseases may be attributed to the point that animal owners in this subregion do employ ethno-veterinary medicine on their animals (Sandabe and Kwari, 2000; Sandabe *et al.*, 2006).

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