



Wild Animal Surgery



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Basics of Wild Animals Handling

- ❖ Domestic/Captive/Wild
- ❖ Basics knowledge about animals
- ❖ Clear idea about purpose of restraining
- ❖ Methods of Restraining
- ❖ Handling of Instruments
- ❖ Species wise knowledge of drugs for chemical restraining and their Reversal
- ❖ Knowledge about handling of anaesthesia induced emergency

Domestic/Captive/Wild



Courtesy of Dr. K.K. Sharma

Captive/Wild



- Easy to Handle
Domestic animals-
familiar to human
being
- In Captive- animal
remained in confined
space
- In Wild - limitations
are wide area, before
restraining you need to
survey the area, some
animals may inters into
nearby pond/river and
there may be chances
of drowning



Courtesy of Dr. K.K. Sharma



The person capturing or administering drugs to a wild animal simultaneously assumes the responsibility for the life of that animal

Richard K. Clark

Choice of immobilizing drugs

Species	Adult body weight (Kg)	First choice	Second choice	Third choice
Asian elephant	4000-5000	Medetomidine 3-5mg/ton + Ketamine-125mg/ton	Xylazine-100mg/ton + Ketamine-125mg/ton	Etorphine-1mg/400-500kg
Rhino	2000-2200	Etorphine @1mg/400-500kg	Carfentanyl	
Wild buffalo (Bison)	700-1000	Etorphine @1mg/400-500kg	Medetomidine 3-5mg/ton + Ketamine-125mg/ton	Xylazine-500mg/ton + Ketamine-125mg/ton

Drug Dosage

Recommended drug/ dosages for immobilization of adult tiger

Sr. No.	Drug(s) for immobilization	Male	Female	Reversal drugs (antidote)
1.	Hellabrunn mixture (HBM) [Xylazine (XYL) and Ketamine (KET)] mixture in a ratio of 1.25:1	3.0 ml (375 mg XYL & 300mg KET) to 3.5 ml (437.5 mg XYL & 350 mg KET)	2.5 ml (312.5 mg XYL & 250 mg KET) to 3.0 ml (375 mg XYL & 300mg KET)	Yohimbine hydrochloride (0.125 mgkg ⁻¹ body weight)
2	Medetomidine (MED) and Ketamine (KET)	50-60 µg kg ⁻¹ body weight MED and 1-2 mgkg ⁻¹ body weight KET		25-35 mg of Atipamezole hydrochloride

Medetomidine (25 µg/kg) and ketamine (4 mg/kg) intramuscularly

Leopard: 5 mg K and 1.5 mg X per kg

Species wise knowledge of drugs for chemical restraining and their Reversal

Drugs	Reversal
Xylazine	Yohimbin
Medetomidine	Atipamezole
Etorphin	Diprenorphine
Butorphanol	
Acepromazine	
Azaperone	
Telazole	
Ketamine	

Alpha-2 agonists

- Xylazine(1962)
- Medetomidine/Dexmedetomidine
- Detomidine
- Presynaptic action at noradrenergic receptors; decreased NA release -> decreased sympathetic activity
- Sedative and analgesic muscle relaxation effects



Alpha-2 agonists

- **Advantages**

- –Profound sedation
- –Good analgesia
- Muscle relaxant
- –Reversible;
(atipamezole) IM
(emergency IV)

- **Disadvantages**

- Emetic
- Peripheral vasoconstriction
- Hypoxia, hypercapnia
- Can become
aroused/defensive if
stimulated

Dissociatives

- Very commonly used
- –Ketamine
- –Tiletamine(4 x more potent)
- •Dissociative effects
- –Cataleptic state, eyes remain open, intact corneal reflexes
- –Muscle tremors, tonic-clonic movements,
- •Hallucinations
- •Typical apneustic breathing pattern
- –long inspiration, short expiration
- •Usually given in combination with other drugs

Dissociatives

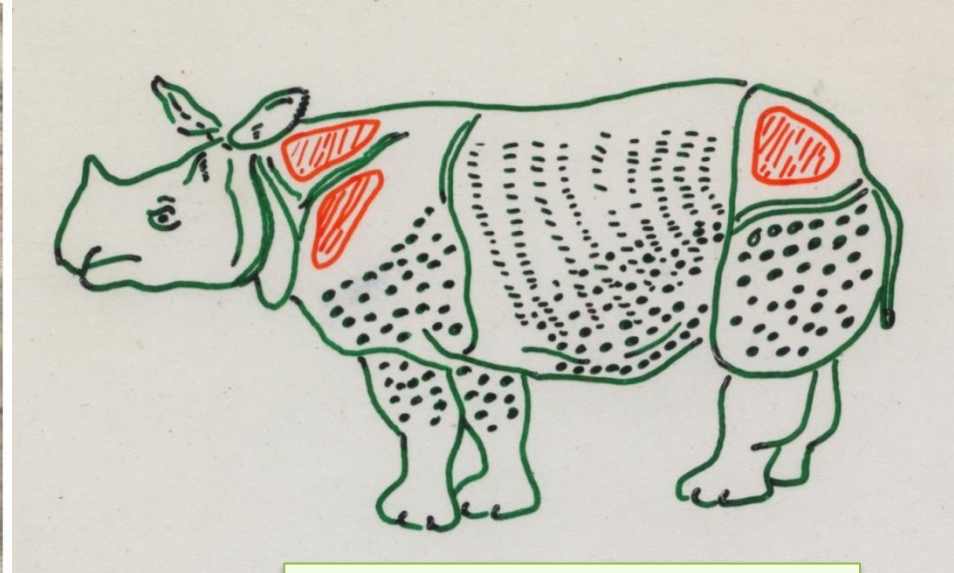
Advantages

- –Minimal respiratory depression, cardiac output maintained
- –Laryngeal reflex maintained
- –Can be given IM or IV (and epidurally)
- –Marked analgesia

Disadvantages

- Muscle rigidity/
tremor/movement
- Eyes open –
desiccation/trauma
- Increased intracranial
pressure
- No antagonist
- Poor quality recovery
- Tiletamine alone can cause
seizures
- Hyper-salivation

Darting(Restrain)/Shooting (Hunt)



Courtesy of Dr. K.K. Sharma

Inadequate depth

- Warning signs!
 - –Strong palpebral reflex
 - –Eye position
 - –Increased heart rate
 - –Increased respiratory rate
 - –Muscle movements/tremors
 - •Sudden arousal



Emergencies

- Cardiac
- Respiratory
- Shock & hypotension



*"For every mistake that is made for not knowing,
a hundred are made for not looking."*

Respiratory Emergency

- • 'Respiratory failure'
- • Laboured or reduced breathing
 - –e.g. excessive depth, cerebral hypoxia, pulmonary oedema
- • Tachypnoea or panting
 - –e.g. inadequate depth, hypoxaemia, hypercapnia, hyperthermia
- • Irregular patterns
 - –e.g. Apneustic breathing seen in ketamine.

Management

- *Do not give any more anaesthetics*
- **•Airway**
- –Check & clear if obstructed
- –Consider endotracheal tube
- **•Breathing**
- –Establish & maintain
- –IPPV at 1 breath per 5 seconds (large felid)
- –(Chest compressions not very effective)
- **•Circulation –check heart & pulse**
- **•Drugs**
- –Reversal agents (careful!)
- –Doxapram < 1mg/kg IV (or tongue muscle if impossible)
- **•Monitor very closely for recurrence**

Cardiac Emergency

- *Do not give any more anaesthetics*
- **•Airway**
- –Check & clear if obstructed
- –Consider endotracheal tube
- **•Breathing**
- –Establish & maintain
- –IPPV at 1 breath per 5 seconds (large felid)
- –(Chest compressions not very effective)
- **•Circulation –external cardiac massage / head down**
- **•Drugs**
- –Adrenaline 10µg/kg IV or IC
- –(Repeat every 3-4 minutes if necessary)
- –If heart restarts give atropine by slow IV

Hyperthermia

- Core body temperature above normal limit
- •Leading to brain damage & death
- •If slight or short-duration –recovery slow
- •Causes
 - –Anaesthetics interfere with thermoregulation
 - –High environmental temperatures
 - –Pre-anaesthetic excitement
 - –Seizures

Management

- Move animal into shade
- Cool body with water or alcohol
- Packing with cold water bags
- Fanning
- Control seizures (diazepam)
- Cold water enema via stomach tube into rectum, drained & repeated every 5 minutes
- Never enclose in a box



Shock & hypotension

- Inadequate perfusion of tissues with blood
- –MAP <55 mmHg life threatening
- •Causes
- –Especially hypovolaemia from loss of blood or plasma
- –Haemorrhage and dehydration most common
- •Signs
- –Weak & rapid pulse
- –Pale or blue mucous membranes
- –Prolonged CRT
- –Rapid heart beat
- –Hyperventilation or shallow/sporadic breathing
- –Cold extremities

Management

- *Do not give any more anaesthetics*
- •Correct any obvious cause
- •Reverse anaesthetics if possible (careful!)
- •Rapid intravenous fluids
- –Isotonic crystalloids (LRS) (10ml/kg bolus)
- –Colloids (hetastarch) (10ml/kg slow bolus)
- –(Subcutaneous fluids not as effective)
- •Antibiotics
- •Dexamethasone 1mg/kg IV
- •Oxygen if possible

Precautions

- **Prevention is better than cure...**
- •Monitor vital signs
 - –Heart rate
 - –Pulse rate and strength
 - –Quality & rate of breathing
 - –Colour of mucous membranes & CRT
 - –Body temperature
- **Ensure access to veins**
 - –Use clippers (and spirit)
 - –Lateral tail vein
 - –Medial or lateral saphenous vein
 - –Jugular vein
 - –Femoral veins
 - –Sublingual veins

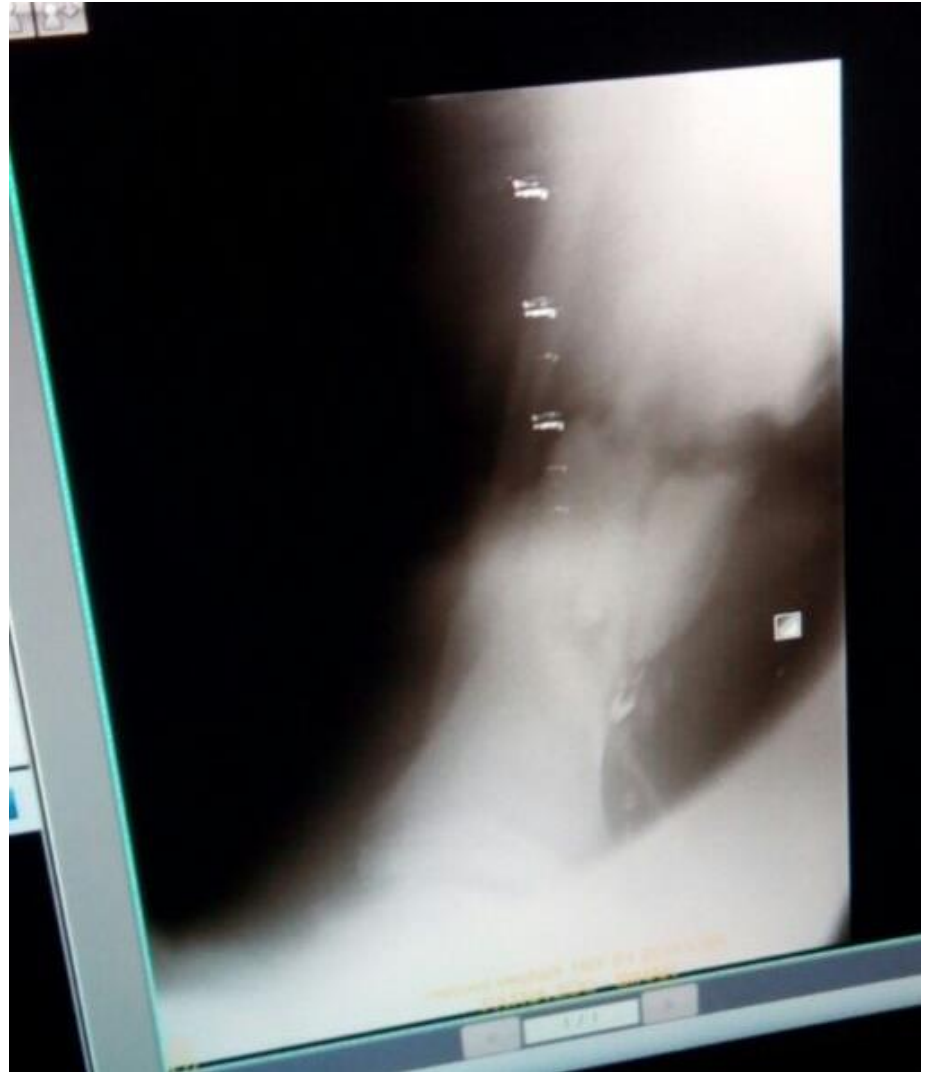


Precaution/Risk



How Not to Release A Leopard.wmv

Gun Shot Wound in Elephant



Tusk injury/ Broken tusk

- In broken tusk, pulp cavity should be irrigated with betadine
- Eliminate Infection
- Seal the cavity using Methyl methacrylate.

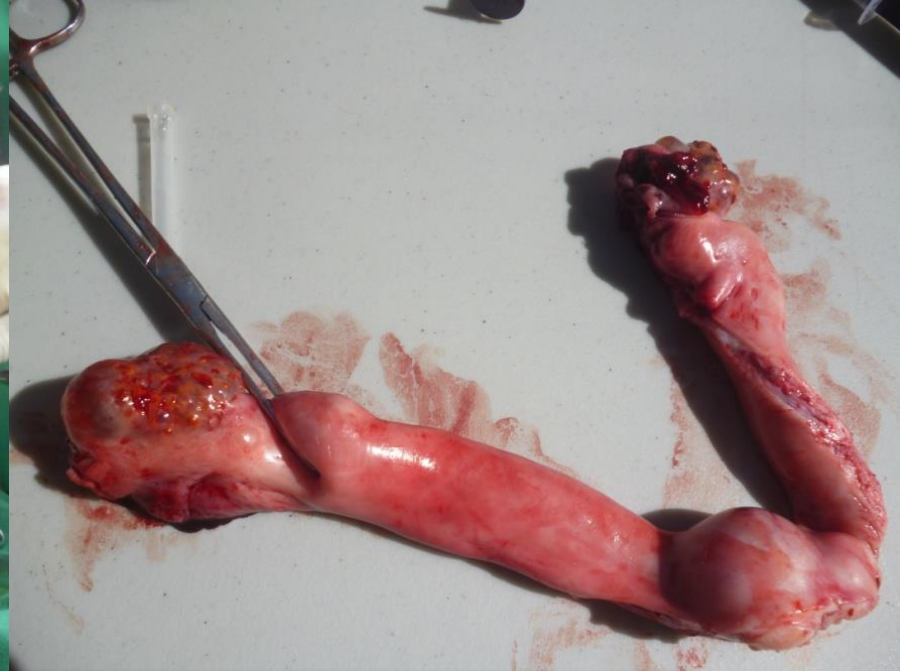


Courtesy of Dr. Bhupen Sharma

Treatment of wound on tail



Pyometra in Tigress



Courtesy of Dr. Bhupen Sharma

Intramedullary Pinning in Kite





Thank You

