



International Journal of Veterinary Sciences and Animal Husbandry



ISSN: 2456-2912

NAAS Rating (2025): 4.61

VET 2025; 10(12): 35-36

© 2025 VET

www.veterinarypaper.com

Received: 23-09-2025

Accepted: 27-10-2025

L Arun

Assistant Professor, Department
of Veterinary Animal Husbandry
Extension and Education,
Veterinary College and Research
Institute, Udumalpet, Tamil
Nadu Veterinary and Animal
Sciences University
(TANUVAS), Tamil Nadu, India

C Inbaraj

Assistant Professor, Department
of Veterinary Medicine,
Veterinary College and Research
Institute, Udumalpet, Tamil
Nadu Veterinary and Animal
Sciences University
(TANUVAS), Tamil Nadu, India

Rubber band syndrome in a spitz dog: A case report

L Arun and C Inbaraj

DOI: <https://www.doi.org/10.22271/veterinary.2025.v10.i12a.2789>

Abstract

A two-year-old Spitz dog with a history of neck injuries was seen at the door. Physical examination revealed that someone had applied a rubber band (foreign body) to the neck region, causing a wound in the surrounding area. After a thorough examination, it was discovered that the rubber band was compressing the wound site. The rubber band was taken off and the hairs in the wound region were cut in a sanitary way. Antibiotics, painkiller injections, and topical antiseptic spray were used to treat the animal's wounds. An uncomplicated recovery was made possible by prompt intervention and appropriate wound care.

Keywords: Spitz dog, rubber band, cut wound

Introduction

In animals, rubber band syndrome is an uncommon condition. Rubber bands were widely used for package of food items and in therapeutic medicine for emergency haemostasis tourniquet, orthodontic treatment and umbilical cord clamping (Boon wittaya and Kaewmanee, 2019) [1]. Rubber bands are typically used around a puppy's neck and fetlock joint as a cosmetic to improve their appearance. When a rubber band is worn for an extended length of time, it exerts painless pressure that causes blood vessels to contract and eventually turns into a wound, which eventually causes necrosis of specific tissue and loss of function. If neglected rubber band application goes misdiagnosed, it can result in a serious wound, and there is a dearth of veterinary practice literature. The successful retrieval of a rubber band and appropriate wound care for a Spitz dog are explained in this paper.

History and observation

A two-year-old Spitz dog with a history of neck injuries was seen at the door. Upon physical examination, it was discovered that someone had placed a rubber band in the neck region. The band was concealed by the skin and went unnoticed, but eventually it caused a lesion in the surrounding area (Fig 1). When the neck was palpated, the animal showed signs of pain. Examination showed that the rubber band was stuck to the skin and that the wound borders were erythematous with purulent discharge.

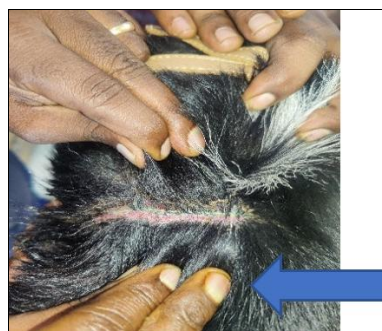


Fig 1: Rubber band (green colour) in the neck region

Corresponding Author:

L Arun

Assistant Professor, Department
of Veterinary Animal Husbandry
Extension and Education,
Veterinary College and Research
Institute, Udumalpet, Tamil
Nadu Veterinary and Animal
Sciences University
(TANUVAS), Tamil Nadu, India

Treatment

The animal was securely secured in a standing position, the rubber band was manually removed after the loose portion was cut (Figs. 2 and 3), the hairs in the wound region were clipped, and the wound was cleaned with a 5% povidone iodine solution. To encourage quicker wound healing and improved wound protection, topical wound spray (Neomycin sulphate, Polymyxin B, and Bacitracin) was applied twice daily. To lessen discomfort and wound contamination, enrofloxacin (5 mg/kg) and meloxicam (0.2 mg/kg) were constantly given for three days. Ten days after the foreign body was removed, the wound was completely healed. An uncomplicated recovery was made possible by proper wound care at regular intervals (Fig - 4).

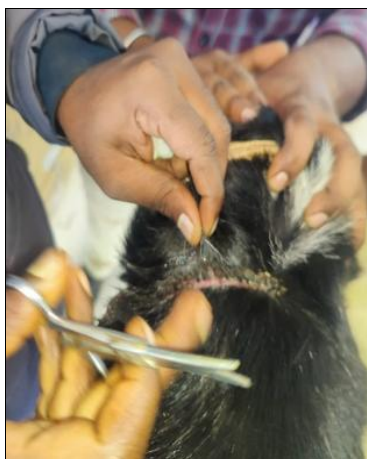


Fig 2: Removal of rubber



Fig 3: Removed rubber



Fig 4: Animal recovered band and clipping of hairs band

Discussion

Synonyms of this condition hair-thread tourniquet syndrome, ischemic hair syndrome and rubber band syndrome (Smith *et al.* 2003) [3]. Constriction caused by the tourniquet blocked the drainage resulted in edema and reduced blood supply led to ischemia of the affected part (Corazza *et al.* 2002) [2]. Similarly in the present case also two year old dog was affected. Surgical treatment involved the simple removal of the band without an aggressive approach into the deep essential structures and it was cleaned and dressed with topical antiseptic solutions (Vigneshwaran *et al.* 2021) [4].

Conclusion

It is clear from the aforementioned case data and other veterinary literature that rubber band syndrome is extremely rare in animals. Anamnesis, a thorough clinical examination, the elimination of the cause, and sufficient immobilisation led to a successful recovery.

Conflict of Interest

Not available.

Financial Support

Not available.

References

1. Boonwittaya N, Kaewmanee S. Rubber band syndrome in a dyspnoeic dog. *Thai J Vet Med.* 2019;49:377-383.
2. Corazza M, Carla E, Altieri E, Virgili A. What syndrome is this? *Pediatr Dermatol.* 2002;19:555-556.
3. Smith AM, Peckett W, Davies M. Acquired constriction ring syndrome. *Foot Ankle Int.* 2003;24:640-641.
4. Vigneshwaran S, Inbaraj C, Monica G, Rama T, Chandrasekaran D. Rubber band syndrome in a pup: an unusual case report. *Pharma Innov J.* 2021;10(4):231-232.
5. Vardhan Reddy PV, Raj P, Simon S, Sindhu R, Ratnam T. Navigating Rubber Band Syndrome in Dogs: A Report of Three Cases. *Indian Journal of Veterinary Sciences & Biotechnology.* 2024 Jul 1;20(4).

How to Cite This Article

Arun L, Inbaraj C. Rubber band syndrome in a spitz dog: A case report. *International Journal of Veterinary Sciences and Animal Husbandry.* 2025;10(12):35-36.

Creative Commons (CC) License

This is an open-access journal, and articles are distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial-Share Alike 4.0 International (CC BY-NC-SA 4.0) License, which allows others to remix, tweak, and build upon the work non-commercially, as long as appropriate credit is given and the new creations are licensed under the identical terms.