

# ALTERNATIVES FOR TREATMENT OF OVARIAN CYSTS IN DAIRY COWS

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## INTRODUCTION

The ovarian cysts are common in bovines, mainly in dairy cows. For its great occurrence and the damage that they cause to the reproductive performance of the affected animals, they deserve special attention of the practioners and Veterinarians, to become fullfilled precocious diagnostic and treatments for the immediate reestablishment of the animal, being aimed at to minimize the losses. In bovines, a ovarian cyst is defined as one anovulatory follicle, with superior diameter 25 mm, that persists in the ovary up to 10 days without the presence of a functional corpus luteum (1). This definition however is criticized by other authors, who working with ultrasonography shows the possibility of cysts with inferior sizes. In bovine is mainly found in the first days postpartum, therefore at this time hipotalamus and hipophisys still is partially refractory to the estradiol produced for the follicles that initiate the growth in this time, or the follicles would not have normal capacity of estradiol production. Some predisponent factors exist, and mainly they are associated to the stress conditions. Conditions of chronic stress, as the environmental conditions in tropical regions are indicated as important predisponent factor. Different symptoms was associated to the ovarian cysts in bovines. Nymphomania, anestrus and the masculinization are the main clinical signals. The aim of this work was to study the occurrence of ovarian cysts in Holstein cows and the efficiency of two treatments for it (buserelin acetate and progesterone intravaginal device- CIDR).

## MATERAL AND METHODS

It was carried through in herds located in the South of the State of Minas Gerais. Date analysed refers to the 1524 gynecological examinations performed by retal and/or ultrasonography within period of two years (June-2001 to May-2003). For ovarian cyst confirmation had been considered both the results of the clinical examinations and the reproductive history of the animal. The cow was considered with cyst when presented one or more follicles with superior diameter 20mm, that it remained in this condition up 10 days, without the presence of corpus luteum. Those animals had been radomized in two treatments. T1- Application of intravaginal device of progesterone (CIDR) for 8 days and T2 - Application IM of 8,4µg of buserelin acetate.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

An occurrence of ovarian cysts of 11.02% was observed. The main observed Clinical signs in cows that presented ovarian cysts were: anestrus (72.62%), nymphomania (16.07%) and masculinization (6,54%) (figure 1).



The effiience of treatment was bigger in the animals treated with CIDR (80,43 versus 65,43%). The percentage of returns was bigger in the treatment with buserelin (13,58 versus 9,19%). In the

cows with anestrus the treatments had similar efficiency. In the animals that presented nymphomania and masculinization the treatment with CIDR was more efficient. The efficiency of the buserelin reduced after 130 days postpartum. The efficiency of the CIDR was similar in the different days postpartum, and bigger than the buserelin in the periods above 90 days postpartum. This study demonstrated that ovarian cysts is a comon pathology in dairy cows. Non especific signs, such anestrus, was the most frequent. The CIDR is more efficient than the buserelin in animals after 90 days postpartum.

#### REFERENCES

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