



Lumpy Skin Disease: Novel Insights Into A Newly Discovered Viral Pathogen With Transboundary Implications

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Abstract

The Lumpy Skin Disease Virus (LSDV) is a newly discovered cow pox viral infection that is now expanding across Asia. Asian farmers and policymakers place a great deal of weight on the state of the diseases. Wild calves in Hong Kong began to exhibit multi-focal dermatological nodules in them in October 2020, which were indicative of lumpy skin disease (LSD). It was further corroborated by gross and histopathological pathology, and sample in order to demonstrate the possibility of LSDV spreading in the absence of arthropods, this research reports an attempt to transmit the virus from infected to susceptible cattle kept in close quarters. By inoculating susceptible cattle via three ways compatible with mechanical transmission by arthropods onto the conjunctival sac, the arthropod transmission of LSDV was studied both intravenously and viral infection, middle.

Keywords: Lumpy skin disease, cow, knopvelsieke, middle East.

Introduction

Capri poxvirus. 1929 saw the discovery of the illness in Northern Rhodesia, now part of Zambia. It has been documented from the Middle East, much of sub-Saharan Africa, and certain regions of North Africa. Vaccines against the disease that are live-attenuated are available. However, many animals remain at risk because owners have been unwilling or unable to vaccinate due to issues with local sensitivities to vaccinations and shortages of vaccines. Due to reduced milk production, stunted growth, hide damage, and sterility, LSD is the main source of economic loss. Previous descriptions of the disease's features and range of clinical manifestations are available. However, little is known about the disease's pathophysiology and mode of transmission.

According to epidemiological data, there is a direct correlation between disease outbreaks and the rainy season as well as the abundance of biting arthropods [1-7]. Biological transmission of poxviruses by arthropod vectors is not supported by experimental or epidemiological data; nevertheless, mechanical transmission of the viruses causing myxomatosis [9], swine pox, squirrel pox virus, and Shope fibroma virus [11] has been demonstrated have been experimentally spread by mosquitoes, and mosquitoes are thought to be involved in the spread of the Tana pox virus Goat poxvirus has been experimentally transferred by the stable fly *Stomoxys calcitrans*, however the major mode of transmission for sheep and goat pox virus is touch, unlike LSD virus (LSDV). There has never been a record of LSDV spreading amongst cattle kept in contact without arthropods.

Even though, in the same circumstances, shared water troughs and saliva have been linked to transmission. In order to demonstrate the possibility of LS Similar to this, it is believed that the 1989 Capri pox outbreak in Israel resulted from infected Stamos's calcitrant traveling from Ismailiyah, Egypt, on the wind [15]. In Saudi Arabia, LSD virus infection in cattle was also discovered in 1992 [16]. Furthermore, the importation of contaminated livestock from the African Horn countries resulted in an LSD infection that was documented in Egypt in 2006.

History

The first description of the LSD clinical condition was made in Zambia in 1929. It was first thought to be the consequence of poisoning or an extreme allergy to insect stings. Between 1943 and 1945, there are also more cases in the Republic of South Africa, Zimbabwe (Southern Rhodesia), Botswana (Bechuanaland), and Zimbabwe. Up until 1949, a Panzootic illness in South Africa killed over 8 million cattle and caused massive economic losses [16]

In 1957, LSD had been found and diagnosed for the first time in East Africa (Kenya), Sudan in 1972, and West Africa in 1974. Between 1981 and 1986, outbreaks of epizootic LSD were also recorded in Tanzania, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Somalia,

and the Cameroon, with mortality rates among infected cattle reaching 20% [11]. From 1929 until 1986, the illness was limited to a few sub-Saharan African nations.

In 1986, reports of LSD were also made in Asian nations like Kuwait [13]. Subsequently, several additional nations, including the Democratic People's Republic of Yemen, the Arab Republic of Yemen, and the United Arab Emirates, confirmed or suspected several cases of LSD and despite an extensive immunization campaign, the illness spreads unexpectedly quickly across the entire nation.

When LSD was discovered in Israel once more that year, the Israeli authorities conjectured that the virus may have already been spreading to other Middle Eastern nations [18]. Since 1990, reports of LSD epidemics have been made in the Middle East. LSD has been detected in Kuwait (1991), Lebanon (1993), Yemen (1995), United Arab Emirates (2000), Bahrain (2003), Israel (2006), and Oman (2010), according to the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) [16].

Various Virus Test

A. Virus Strains: A very infectious Netting strain of Capri poxvirus from South Africa was initially found in a cow that used LSD. It was then introduced into cattle at the Institute for Health of Animals (IAH), Pirbright [17] were adapted for immunizing test animals. Synthesis of primary lamb testis cells obtained from prepubertal lambs were cultivated in 175 cm³ cultured tissue flasks use 5% fetal calf serum and Gothenburg modified Eagle's medium (GMEM) supplemented with glutamine. 90% confluent cell culture was infected by applying lacrimal fluid from an LSDV-infected cattle or skin biopsy materials as a 10% suspension in a solution of phosphate buffered saline (PBS). The cell culture was covered with GMEM and with PBS after a single hour at 37 °C. The virus was collected when a typical cytopathic effect started. 90% of the cells exhibited this. After thawing at -20 °C, the flask and its contents were pelleted at 500 g for 20 minutes to extract the cell debris. Experiment animals were vaccinated using the supernatant after it was extracted and titrated as follows.

B. Titration: In each well of the micro titer plate, lamb testis cells (50 µl GMEM containing 6×10^6 cells/ml) were introduced. The viral suspension was infected into rows A-G of the lamb testis cells using fifty µl of decimal dilutions. To the cell controls in row H, 50 µl of GMEM was applied. The cytopathic effect was assessed on day nine of the experiment. Next, using the number of infected wells on day nine, the viral titer was computed.

C. Virus Neutralization Tests: The number of infected wells on day nine was used to calculate the viral titer. Viral neutralization experiments were conducted using a constant serum changing virus technique [17].

D. Experimental Animals: In the high security facilities at IAH, Pirbright, cattle crossed with Friesian breeds were housed. Using 0–5-inch, 25-gauge needles, 25 animals were intradermal injected into the clipped skin of their necks, 20–25 cm cranial to the scapula. The left jugular vein was used to inject an intravenous vaccine into eleven animals. Between 10^2 and $10^{6.7}$ TCID of LSDV were given to each animal. A 0.2 ml tissue culture supernatant containing 10^3 TCTD₅₀ of LSDV was instilled onto the right eye's conjunctiva of two rats. One vulnerable animal was housed with two other animals that had received an intradermal LSDV vaccination in seven different tests. In each of the seven trials, clinical symptoms were noted in all three animals. Six out of the seven trials involved the every day, the animals' body temperatures were noted [18].

The animals were routinely checked for clinical symptoms, and any changes that were observed at the sites of inoculation, such as the size of the lesion, the level of hyperkalemia, discomfort, and edema, were noted. For the first 28 days of the trial, the seven animals in touch were not confined and were not given a thorough clinical evaluation. Except for the animals that were in touch with infected animals, which did not bleed during the first 28 days of the trial, blood samples were taken by jugular venipuncture at the start of each experiment and at different intervals after.

E. Blood Sampling: Blood samples were drawn into simple tubes and anticoagulant (EDTA)-containing tubes from the jugular veins. Samples of serum and whole blood were kept at -70 °C until further laboratory analysis (after hematologic evaluation).

F. Biochemical Analysis: Aspartate aminotransferase (AST), alkaline phosphatase (ALP), total protein, albumin, glucose, urea, creatinine, iron, and total and direct bilirubin concentrations are among the serum biochemical markers. Using Persimmon kits (Iran) and a biochemistry autoanalyzer (BT-1500, Biotechnica, Italy), the activities of and creatine phosphokinase (CPK) were measured.

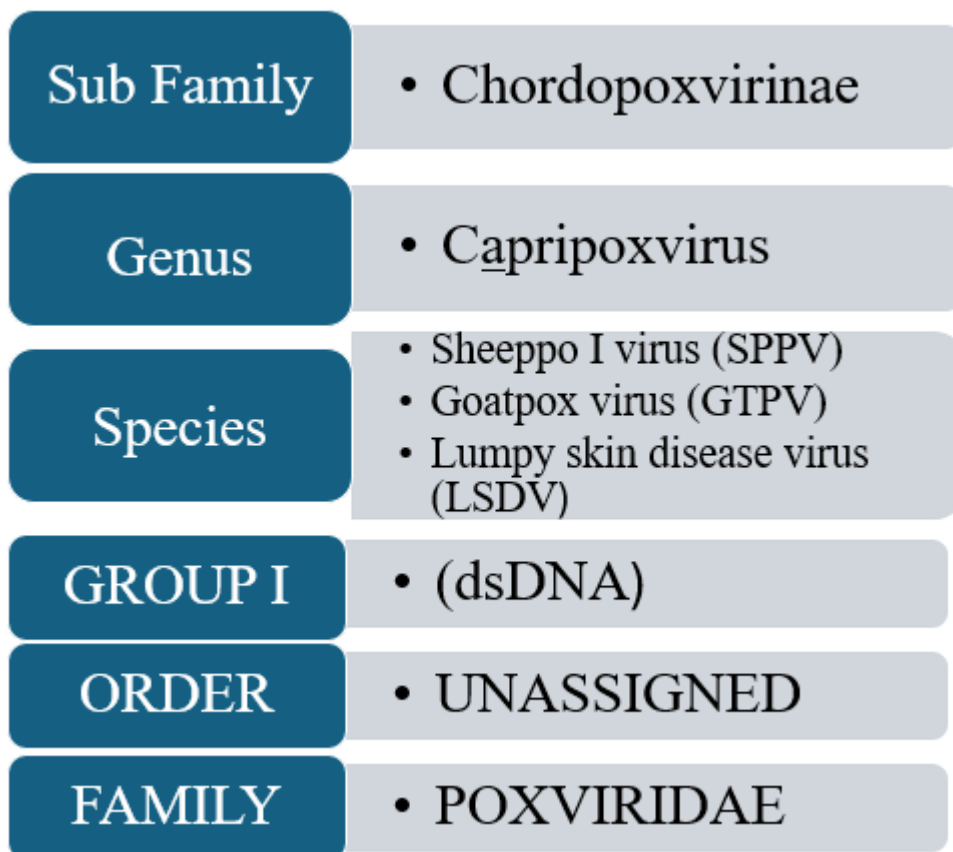


Fig. 1: Classification of lumpy skin disease virus

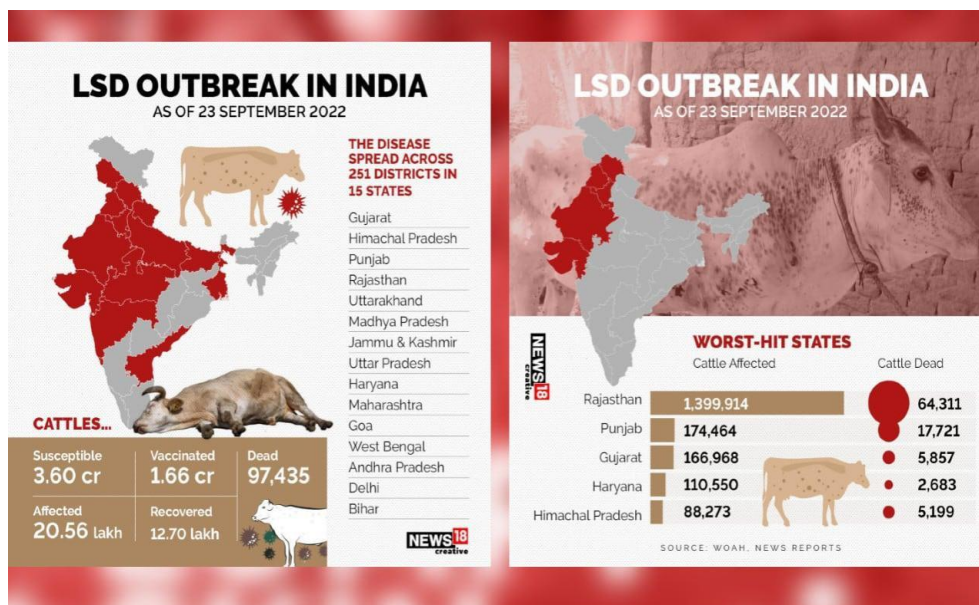


Fig. 2: Map of Lumpy Skin Distribution (the red dots show the emergence foci of the Disease Disease)

Diagnosis: Virus detection tools are not yet available. 1190 As a result, the clinical diagnosis of LSD is typically verified by laboratory testing utilizing traditional polymerase deep nodule chain reaction (PCR) techniques, as well as the characteristic clinical manifestations and differential diagnosis [19].

LSD should be diagnosed clinically if there are typical skin nodules, fever and swelling of superficial lymph nodes. Within two days, lumps on the skin emerge on the body, ranging from the snout to the tail. The mucosa of the mouth, vagina, and conjunctiva all has similar lesions. Purulent nasal and ocular discharges are not uncommon [20].

Laboratory confirmation of LSD virus can be performed quickly utilizing a Capri poxvirus-specific PCR technique or by demonstrating typical Capri pox virions in biopsy material or dried crusts using transmission electron microscopy (TEM).The OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines [21] describes routine diagnostic approaches.

Different Diagnosis: Similar LSD symptoms can be caused by a variety of diseases. To guarantee the most effective preventative and control actions for sensitive herds, it is essential to obtain an accurate diagnosis. LSD can be confused with the following diseases:

- A. Psudeo – Lumpy Skin Disease
- B. Virus diarrhea/Mucosal disease
- C. Demodicosis (Demodex)
- D. Bovine malignant catarrhal fever (Snootiest)
- E. Rinderpest
- F. Bismuthosis
- G. Onchocerciasis
- H. Insect bite allergy

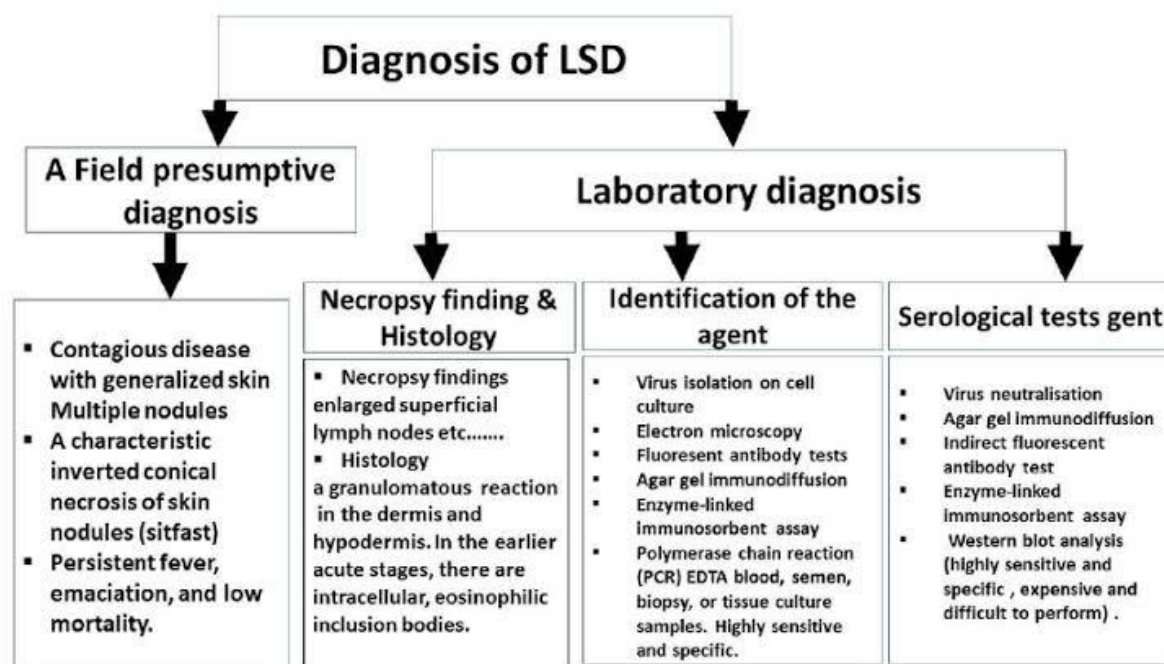


Fig. 3: Diagnosis of LSD

Etiology: Compared to Orth pavilions, mature capri poxvirus has bigger lateral bodies and a more oval appearance. They measure 320×260 nm on average [22]. In many different cell cultures, including those of the kidneys of lambs and calf, the adrenal and thyroid glands, muscles, and testes, the LSD virus thrives and multiplies to a great degree. For that reason, primary cell cultures of bovine dermis and horse lungs, as well as rabbit fetal kidneys and skin, chicken embryo fibroblasts, adult vervet monkey kidneys, and baby hamster kidneys are also employed. In many different cell cultures, including those of the kidneys of lambs and calves, the adrenal and thyroid glands, muscles, and testes, the LSD virus thrives and multiplies to a great degree. For that reason, primary cell cultures of bovine dermis and horse lungs, as well as rabbit fetal kidneys and skin, chicken embryo fibroblasts, adult vervet monkey kidneys, and baby hamster kidneys, are also employed [23].

Epidemiology:

A. Morbidity and Mortality: The rates of illness and death following LSD outbreaks vary greatly. Geographical location and climate, management practices, the animal's overall health and nutritional status, the type of cow impacted, immune status, population density and distribution of potential insect vectors throughout different habitats, and the virulence of the virus are all determining variables. LSD has a morbidity rate that varies from 5 to 45%. On the other hand, 1 to 5 percent morbidity rates are thought to be more typical. Epizootics in Southern, West, and East Africa, as well as the Sudan, have shown higher rates; nevertheless, significantly lower rates may occur during the same epizootic. Furthermore, in a farm population of Holstein cattle in Oman in 2009, high rates of illness and mortality were found, at 30-45% and 12%, respectively.

Table 1 : Morbidity, Mortality in outbreak of lumpy skin disease in cattle in Saudi Arabia regions during 2016

Sr. No.	Region	No. of susceptible Cattle	Morbidity rate (%)	Mortality rate (%)
1.	Al – Hassa	45,141	2,825 (6.3%)	436 (0.97%)
2.	Riyadh	8,541	471 (5.5%)	17 (0.19%)
3.	Al-Sharqia	2,185	6 (0.27%)	0 (0%)
4.	Al- Qassim	7,932	547 (6.8%)	188 (2.3%)

5.	Total	63,799	3849 (6%)	641 (1%)
6.	p- value		.00**	.00**

Transmission: It is unclear how the virus that causes lumpy skin disease spreads. The LSD virus has primarily propagated mechanically through flying insects, and every hint that could lead to an epidemic supports field data that LSD outbreaks happen during times when insect biting is most active.

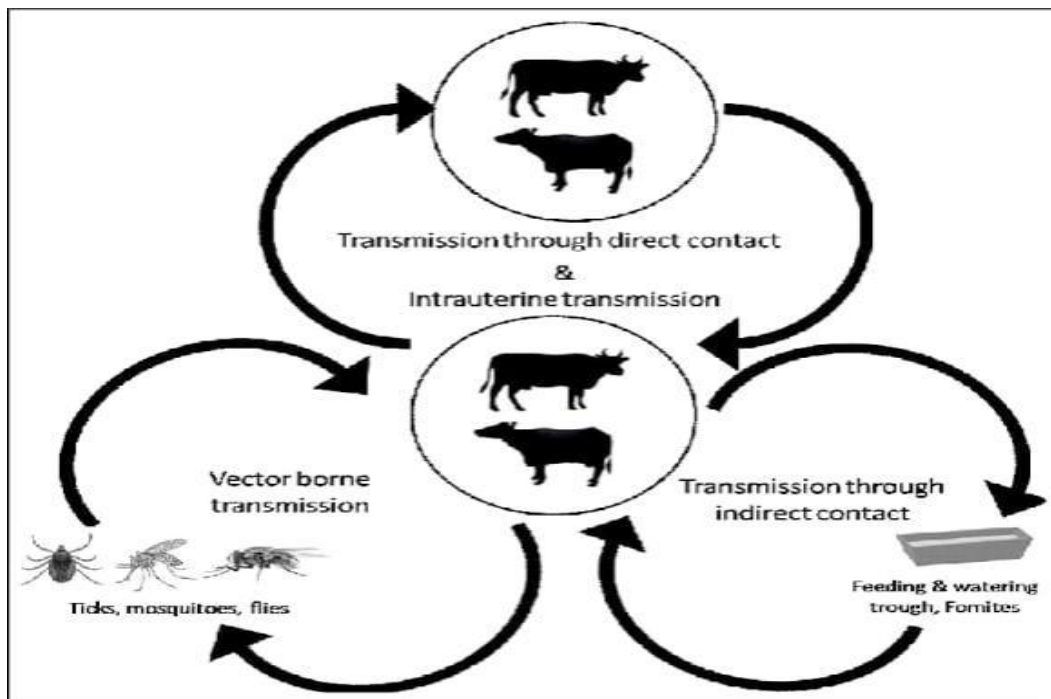


Fig. 4: Transmission Process

The majority of cases are thought to have been caused by an arthropod vector. Because different active vector species are found in different conditions, attack rates in different epidemics might vary from 10% to almost 100%.

Pathology:

Gross pathological lesions: Skin nodules are frequently homogeneous in size, difficult, spherical, and elevated. However, some may fuse into enormous irregular and circumscribed plaques. When incised, the surface of the nodule is reddish-gray and edematous in the subcutaneous layer. Circular necrotic lesions can occur in many regions of the digestive, respiratory, and urogenital tracts. Its mouth, nasal cavity, larynx, trachea, bronchi, inside of lips, gingiva, dental pad, abomasum, uterus, vagina, teats, udder, and testes may all be affected. In addition to local cellulitis, regional lymph nodes become swollen (up to the times their normal size), edematous, congested, and contain pyemic foci [24]. Severe cases include pleuritis and the swelling of mediastinal lymph vessels. LSD's typical nodular lesion covers the musculature and fascia across the leg, appearing grey-white and bordered by red inflammatory tissue. Furthermore, the lesions are separated from the healthy tissue, resulting in an ulcer that heals slowly by granulation. Severely infected animals may display secondary bacterial pneumonia, the trachea stenosis, acute and chronic mastitis with orchitis and dry bacterial infection, and similar lesions in the female reproductive system [25].

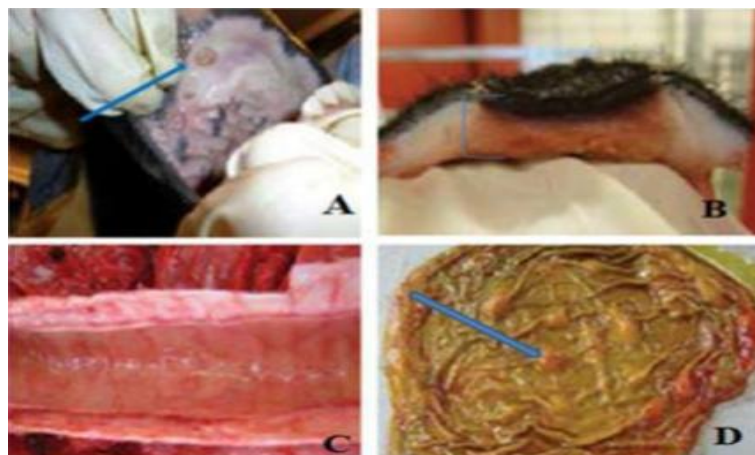


Fig. 5: Internal lumpy skin lesions

Histopathological Findings: The typical histopathological results of the LSD serve as a foundation for diagnosis. He used pathogenic LSD In addition to cell layer degeneration and ballooning, keratinocytes, macrophages, endothelial cells, and pericytes from skin nodules may have microscopic lesion eosinophilic intracytoplasmic inclusion bodies. Eosinophils, macrophages, and lymphocytes are among the inflammatory cells that have penetrated the afflicted area. Furthermore, histopathological observations of extensive vasculitis imply the viral preference for endothelial cells [20,50]. Histopathological severe coagulative necrosis in subcutaneous muscle may be seen if there is muscle injury during the course of LSD [25].

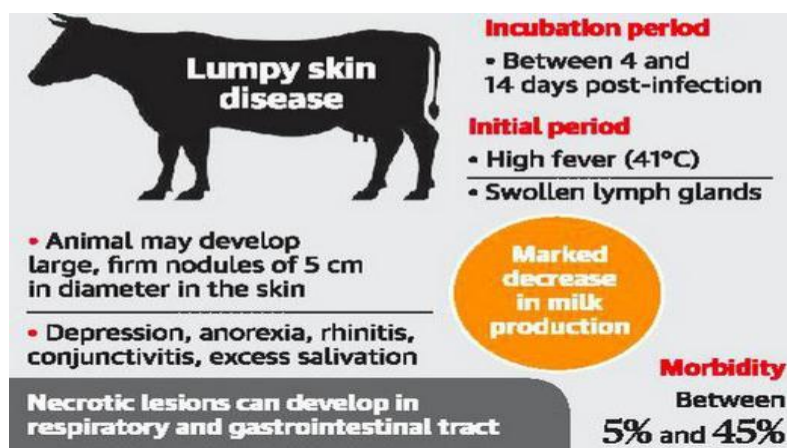


Fig. 6: Clinical Signs Nudules on the skin of the Animal

Clinical Signs:

In experimentally infected cattle, the period of time between inoculation and first observation of generalized clinical symptoms spans from 7 to 14 days, regardless of the source of infection, but in biological cases, the time range is 2 to 5 weeks. LSD has been classified as mild or severe depending on lump count, complications, inoculum dose, host sensitivity, and insect density. Mildly infected cattle may exhibit symptoms such as sadness, anorexia, excessive salivation, ocular and nasal discharge, agalactia, and emaciation within two days of fever start. Nodular lesions can cause pain and swelling on the animal body. This is particularly prevalent in the skin of the muzzle, nares, back, legs, scrotum, perineum, eyelids, inner ear, nasal and the oral cavity, and tail [25].

In severe cases that can last 7-12 days, there is persistent high pyrexia (40-41.5°C), acute depression, anorexia, and a characteristic of multiple (more than hundreds) nodules that are usually rather uniform in size and spread all over the animal's body.

Treatment:

Recently, no specific antiviral treatment for LSD infection has been identified. Sick animals should be separated from the herd and given supportive care, such as antibiotics, anti-inflammatory medications, and vitamin injections. These medicines typically reduce the risk of secondary bacterial infections, inflammation, and fever, hence boosting the animal's appetite [27]. Animals infected with LSD typically recover since mortality is less than 3%. If a subsequent bacterial infection develops, total healing could take more than months or longer [26].

Control and Prevent:

Quarantine and movement limitation are ineffective for controlling Lumpy skin disease because biting flies and certain tick species are most likely the main means of disease transmission. Although pest control was ineffective in stopping the spread of LSD, the use of insecticides in combination with repellents can help prevent the spread of LSD.

Quarantines, removing afflicted and exposed animals from the area, disposing of bodies properly, cleaning and disinfecting the area, and problem solving can all be used to contain LSD outbreaks. According to the OIE, four live transmitted variants of Capri poxvirus have been used as vaccines to inhibit LSD. These include a Kenyan sheep and goat pox virus strain that has been passage 18 times in lamb testis (LT) cells or fetal calf muscle cells, a Yugoslavian RM 65 sheep pox strain, a Romanian sheep pox strain, and a South African lumpy skin disease virus strain that has been passage 60 times in lamb kidney cells and 20 times on the chorioallantois membrane of fertilized chicken eggs.

The following vaccines have been used to protect the Animals

- Homologous live attenuated virus vaccine (Neethling strain: immunity conferred lasts up to 3 years).
- Heterologous live attenuated virus vaccination (sheep or goat pox vaccine, which may induce local, sometimes severe reactions). Live vaccinations should not be used in places free of sheep and goat pox, as they may infect susceptible populations.
- No new generation recombinant Capri pox vaccinations are currently available.

Conclusion and Recommendations

The genus CAPV is the source of lumpy skin disease (LSD), a vector-borne illness that was formerly exclusive to sub-Saharan Africa. But recently, it has been gradually encroaching on new areas, including Europe. The disease's characteristic nodular lesions are primarily found on the skin and underlying tissues of afflicted animals, while they can also occasionally affect the conjunctiva, alimentary, respiratory, and urogenital tracts, among other body parts. Due to decreased hide quality, chronic debility, decreased milk output, weight loss, infertility, miscarriage, and death, the lesions subsequently cause enormous economic losses. These could also have a major negative impact on rural lives that heavily rely on cattle and result in large production losses. The effects of disease are also catastrophic on a national scale because their existence has led to trade restrictions.

- A. In addition to the usual clinical symptoms, the -hematology clinic Gicel and biochemical profile of calves impacted by LSD must be determined.
- B. Control measurements require accurate on-time diagnosis.
- C. In endemic locations, an annual vaccination strategy using a homologous strain of the LSDV is required.
- D. During the active period of insect migration, it is crucial to manage vectors and restrict animal movement.
- E. Bulls that are utilized for breeding must have an LSDV diagnosis.

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