Surgical repair of tibial and fibular multiple diaphyseal fractures in a wild sheep (Ovis Orientalis Arkal)

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Case Description- A 2.5-year-old wild sheep was referred with a history of being hit by a car.

Clinical Findings- The sheep was in a non-weight-bearing position on his right hind leg. Radiographic examination revealed multiple fractures in the tibia and fibula.

Treatment and Outcome- Following food withdrawal and fluid therapy (Ringer's lactate solution) the sheep was premedicated with xylazine, induced with midazolam-ketamine combination and maintained with propofol (0.2-0.3 mg/kg/min-CRI). The patient was intubated and received oxygen during operation. Following induction lumbosacral epidural analgesia (combination of 2% lidocaine & 0.5% bupivacaine-0.2 mL/kg) was performed. Using a craniomedial approach after routine surgical preparations and consequent to the anatomic alignment of the fracture segments by bone holding clamp and forceps, lag screw and neutralization plate and screw (on medial surface of tibia) techniques were used to achieve an anatomical reconstruction. Postoperative radiograph revealed an excellent reduction of the fracture. Cage rest and restricted activity was accomplished for 6 weeks. Penicillin 30000 IU/kg and ketoprofen 3 mg/kg were administered preoperatively and continued for 5 days. Postoperative follow up revealed no complication and the sheep was allowed to return to its domain area of wilderness four months after surgery.

Clinical Relevance- A combination of different fixation techniques with a satisfactory protocol of anesthesia can result in successful fracture repair in wild animals.

Key Words- Tibial and fibular fracture, wild sheep.

References
