BRUCELLOSIS A ZOONOTIC DISEASE

A world wide re-emerging infectious disease Brucellosis is widely prevalent in India among bovine population both in farms and in the villages

CAUSE

Species		Host
B.Melitensis	Goats and sheep	In humans all these four
B.abortus	cattle	species are infectious
B.canis	dogs	
B.suis	pigs	

ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE IN ANIMALS

- Abortion
- Delayed conception
- Temporary or permanent infertility
- Inbreeding
- Weak offspring
- Reduced milk production

PUBLIC HEALTH IMPORTANCE

- Abattoir workers
- Veterinarians
- Livestock producers
- Laboratory personnel

MODE OF TRANSMISSION

- Direct contact of infected animals
- Ingestion
- Inhalation of airborne bacteria
- Consumption of fresh milk and dairy produces prepared from unpasteurized milk such as soft cheese, yoghurts and ice creams
- Infection may also occur through cuts and abrasions of the skin with the conjunctiva
- In utero
- In contrast to artificial insemination, bulls used in natural service may fail to spread the infection as the infected semen is not deposited in the uterus

CLINICAL SIGNS

- Loss of appetite
- Reduced milk production





- Infertility
- Abortion in the last trimester of pregnancy
- Orchitis
- Epididymitis
- Hygromas

CHARACTERISTICS LESIONS

- Firm or soft white nodules on uterine mucosa
- Plaques on the placental mucosa
- Nodules in other tissues and joints

SAMPLE COLLECTION

Live animals	Dead animals	
Blood	Foetus:	
• Serum	 Smears from abdominal fluid 	
• Milk	Thoracic fluid	
Abortion cases:	Foetal stomach content	
 Vaginal smear and vaginal swab 	• Lung	
Placenta:	• Liver	
 Impression smear from placenta 	• Spleen	
	Cotyledons	
	Abdominal fluid and thoracic fluid	
	Tissues in 10% formalin	

PREVENTION AND CONTROL

- Avoid unpasteurized dairy products
- Wear protective clothing/ barriers while handling still births/products of conception
- Awareness among farmers and public through mass contact programme
- Mandatory testing of all breeding bulls in artificial insemination centres
- Control of brucellosis in female calves at three months vaccination with B.abortus S19 vaccine and B.melitensis Rev1 strain for sheep and goats
- Treating with oxytetracycline @ 5mg/kg bwt i/v in combination with Streptomycin 11mg/kg bwt i/m route /day for 5 consecutive days

SAMPLE/ TESTING FEES

S.NO	Diagnostic tests	sample	Cost/sample
1.	Rose Bengal plate	Serum	Rs 50/-
	agglutination test		
2.	Microscopical	Blood smear	Rs 20/- slide
	examination of		
	smears for bacteria		
3.	Isolation &	Swab and organs	Rs 250/- sample
	identification of		
	bacteria		