2ND INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND VIROLOGY

November 14-15, 2025 | London, UK

Hyunduk Kim and Mostafa Nasef

Fujairah Genetics, Fujairah, United Arab Emirates

Iatrogenic transmission of Trypanosoma evansi infection in camels

Trypanosoma evansi infection has started to become a wide spread phenomena around the camelrearing areas of North Africa and the Middle East. The disease caused by trypanosomes is locally known as "Surra" and it can seriously impact not only the health of domestic animals but the local economy as well. After taking over the management of a farm containing approximately 700 camels, it was found that a large number were suffering from trypanosome infection and it was of the utmost importance to find the source of this infection. An extensive dive into the records and observations were initially made to identify the infected population. Under closer inspection it was found that the infection was limited mostly to female individuals that had undergone extended reproductive analysis or treatment. Blood samples were taken from each of the individuals for buffy coat test and blood smears. Among the total number of tested camels (n = 590), almost 40% were infected with trypanosomes. The number and percentage of infection correlate with the number of fertility and pregnancy treatments that the camels had undergone. The most severely infected group, underwent between 17 and 20 instances of treatment or tests, had an infection rate of almost 90%. The devastating effect of trypanosomiasis on camel pregnancy and birth were also verified with 61% of all abortions and 82% of all neonatal deaths coming from trypanosome infected individuals. These results clearly demonstrate how damaging iatrogenic infections of T. evansi can be and how simply they could have been prevented.

Keywords

Iatrogenic transmission, Trypanosoma evansi, camels

doi.org/10.51219/URForum.2025.Hyunduk-Kim

ISBN: 978-1-917892-30-8