



NextVets Magazine

Volume 1 (Issue 1) June – August 2026

Successful Management of Recumbency Associated with Suspected Enteritis in a Horse

Dr. Jessy¹

Dr. Pulikanti Radhakrishna²

¹Veterinary Doctor

1962 Mobile Veterinary Unit

EMRI Green Health Services

Telangana

²Head, Department of Veterinary Physiology, College of Veterinary Science, Korutla

P. V. Narsimha Rao Telangana Veterinary University

radhakrishnapulikanti@gmail.com

Received: July 2026

Published: July 2026

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Abstract:

A horse presented with prolonged recumbency and clinical signs suggestive of enteritis was managed successfully using supportive fluid therapy, antimicrobial therapy and metabolic support over three days. Progressive improvement culminated in complete recovery and return to standing posture.

Keywords

Horse, Enteritis, Recumbency, Fluid therapy, Equine medicine, Clinical case

Introduction

Enteritis in horses may result in severe dehydration, electrolyte imbalance and systemic weakness leading to recumbency. Early supportive therapy is essential to improve survival and recovery.

Case History

A horse from Rejarla Village, Sathupally Mandal, Khammam District, Telangana, was presented in lateral recumbency with marked depression and inability to rise. Clinical findings

suggested acute enteritis with dehydration and weakness.

Clinical Examination

The animal was dull, recumbent and unable to stand. Clinical assessment indicated dehydration and systemic illness. The case was managed conservatively with intensive supportive therapy.

Treatment

Treatment for three consecutive days consisted of: Inj. Intalyte + Neuroxin (500 mL IV + 10 mL), Inj. Biosulpha (10 mL IM), and Inj. Tonophosphon (10 mL IM).

Outcome and Follow-up

The horse showed progressive improvement each day and regained normal standing posture after completion of therapy.

Discussion

Supportive fluid therapy restores circulating volume and electrolyte balance, while antimicrobial therapy addresses suspected bacterial enteritis.

Tonophosphon provides metabolic support during recovery. Early intervention contributed to the successful outcome in this case.

Key Learning Points

- Prompt fluid therapy is critical.
- Early supportive treatment improves prognosis.
- Continuous monitoring is essential during recumbency.

- Timely intervention can prevent complications.

Conclusion

This case demonstrates that early diagnosis, supportive fluid therapy and appropriate antimicrobial treatment can successfully manage selected cases of enteritis-associated recumbency in horses.

Clinical Photographs



Figure 1. Horse presented in lateral recumbency.



Figure 2. Clinical examination and treatment.



Figure 3. Horse standing after successful treatment.