

CONCURRENT INFECTION OF NEW CASTLE DISEASE AND FOWL CHOLERA IN A BACKYARD DESI CHICKEN FARM

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New castle disease is a viral disease caused by *Avulavirus*, which has a worldwide distribution and is regarded as one of the most important constraint to the development of backyard poultry production. It causes immunosuppression in birds so it predispose bird to get other viral or bacterial diseases. Forty percent mortality was recorded in a backyard desi poultry farm. Before death, the birds were depressed, inappetant, dull and had occulonasal discharge, torticollis and open mouth breathing. One bird was presented for complete necropsy examination at Department of Veterinary Pathology, MVC, Chennai-07. Gross examination revealed congested eyes and lungs, moderate diffuse petechial hemorrhage in proventriculus papillae, severe diffuse hemorrhage on caecal tonsil, multifocal subcapsular petechiae on spleen, and multiple small necrotic foci on liver. Spleen, liver and lung impression smears and tissue samples were collected for laboratory investigations. Impression smears revealed characteristic bipolar gram negative organism consistent with *Pasteurella multocida*. And it was positive for NDV through PCR. Based on clinical signs, gross examination, smear staining, histopathology and PCR, the outbreak was diagnosed as concurrent infection of Newcastle disease and fowl cholera and the remaining birds were treated accordingly.