

POST-OVULATORY DYSTOCIA IN CAPTIVE REPTILES: A REVIEW OF 46 CASES FROM A UK PRACTICE

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Reproductive disorders in captive reptiles are reported common. Egg binding, or post-ovulatory dystocia is one of the most common reptilian reproductive disorders. 46 cases of post-ovulatory dystocia in reptilian patients presenting to a UK exotic animal practice were reviewed. Of reptile species presented with dystocia in this study, snakes were underrepresented with 8/46 (17.4%) cases, compared with 19/46 (41.6%) cases for each of lizards and chelonia. 78.9% of suspected cases of post-ovulatory dystocia in chelonians (predominantly Mediterranean tortoises) responded to medical management that included oxytocin. Medical management including oxytocin was only successful in 23.5% of lizard cases versus 25% of cases in snakes.

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