

Review of: "Mycetoma in Animals a Review of Cases Reported From 1925-2022; Epidemiology and Management Strategies"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

General: The topic of this review is important and interesting. However, the quality of English is poor and this manuscript requires editing work by native English-using veterinarians. The body of the text is fragmented by unnecessary paragraph separations.

The methods of literature survey and inclusion/exclusion criteria should be clearly shown. Many important review articles, case reports are missing. In particular, this review focused on epidemiology, not only case reports but also epidemiological research papers and reviews should be included. Discussion is missing.

Frankly speaking, the reviewer is not happy to read such an easy-going way of literature collection because it is merely a waste of time.

Specific Comments:

Title: Mycetoma in Animals: A review of cases from 1925 to 2022 with emphasis on epidemiology and management strategies

Introduction: No need to mention about zoonoses in general. Some confusion exists about the definition of "Mycetoma". The author tended to emphasize mycetoma as the infection with mycotic pathogens.

Etiology of Mycetoma: Histological Aspects

Histological aspects are certain extent appeared in each animal paragraph but nothing mentioned in this section. Figure 1 (transmission route) is based on the results of the literature survey so that it should come after the survey results.

Transmission: This section is meaningless. As mentioned as above, Figure 1 and explaining text should come later after reviewing cases and epidemiology.

Descriptions of Selected Case Reports of Mycetoma in Animals: Canine Mycetoma

This subheading should be divided into two; Canine Mycetoma should be the sub-sub-heading. In this heading, it said "selected case reports" but how are they selected is unclear. Is selection necessary?

Consistency is required for sub-sub headings. Since canine and feline mycetomas are the major part of this section, following subsections should be equine, caprine, and bovine.

Since the mycetoma cases in cattle and goat are very small, may be the author can establish one sub-subheading of "Mycetoma in other animals".

Antifungal in Animals With Mycetoma Infections Bad sub-heading. May be "Chemotherapy for mycetoma in animals"? Although the management strategies were mentioned in the title, there's no clear management strategies here nor in the conclusion.

Conclusions: Conclusions should be specific based on the results of the review. Current conclusion is too general. Why you have made a literature review and what is the new findings after review?

References: Need consistent formatting throughout. Although the reference list has superscripts of a, b, c, etc., there are no such indicators in the reference numbers in the text.

Some references are completely erroneous citations. For example, Ref. 118 is a case report of a human, but it was repeatedly cited in the feline mycetoma section. Complete cross-checking of the accuracy of citations is necessary.

English usages:

The use of punctuation is terrible. Too many unnecessary commas throughout.

Genus/species names should be italicized. Caution should be paid to capitalization, especially for the binomial scientific names of pathogens.

Too many unnecessary usages of reverse conjunctives like "On the other hand," "However," "Although," etc.

Citations by author's name should be made with consistent formatting using the family name of the first author alone followed by the year; Mahmoud et al. (2024).