SCHISTOSOMUS REFLEXUS: ANATOMICAL STUDY OF TWO CASES IN THE PORCINE SPECIES

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INTRODUCTION
Schistosomus reflexus (SR) is a rare type of fetal monstrosity seen primarily in cattle. This fatal congenital syndrome is characterized by the presence of exposed abdominal and sometimes thoracic viscera (schistosomus), and marked spinal inversion producing a distinctive ventral convex curvature (reflexus).

OBJECTIVES
❖ Describe morphologically the cases.
❖ Study the general structure of the skeleton and the particularities of the different bones using a CT scan with 3D reconstruction.
❖ Diagnose the malformation, the various forms of presentation and the prognosis of a fetus with these particularities.

EXTERNAL FINDINGS
- Abdominal and thoracic viscera exposed
- Spinal inversion
- Arthrogryposis of the limbs
- Hemimelia
- Palatoschisis
- Cheiloschisis
- Syndactyly

Figure 1. Schistosomus reflexus in animal 1.
Figure 2. Palatoschisis and Cheiloschisis in animal 2.
Figure 3. Hemimelia in animal 1.
Figure 4. Palatoschisis in animal 1.
Figure 5. Absent radius and finger fusion in animal 1.

CONCLUSIONS
Considering all the external and internal features, it can be affirmed that they are cases of Schistosomus Reflexus.
The syndrome defining defects are evagination of the abdominal viscera, spinal inversion and the positioning of the limbs adjacent to the head and their subsequent ankylosis. A wide variety of other structural abnormalities are frequently observed in cases of SR.
The embryological mechanism by which a SR fetus develops is unknown.
 Syndromes similar to SR exist in other species.