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# Milk Fever (Hypocalcaemia) in Cows

**Dr. Rakesh Gena**
Assistant Professor, M.B Veterinary College, Dungarpur, Rajasthan

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## Introduction

Milk fever is a metabolic disease of dairy cow chiefly affected high milk yielding cow and cow close to calving. Metabolism is a chemical process by which animal body convert food into energy that energy is utilized by cell for the growth and reproduction. Milk fever caused by a low blood calcium level (hypocalcaemia). Exotic and cross breed are more susceptible. This disease has significance value because of economical losses to farmers.

## Causes

- High milk yield and withdrawal of high amount colostrums after calving
- Cows are unable to replace the calcium quickly from of nutritional diet.
- Availability of calcium is very Low in diet.
- Dysfunction of parathyroid gland (unable to convert bone calcium into blood calcium)

## Signs

- Excitement or anxiety along with tremor in muscles of the head and limbs.
- Animal go down to floor
- Unable to stand
- Body extremities (legs, ear and skin ) become cold
- The body temperature falls below normal
- Sterna recumbency ( animal sitting on sternum)
- Looking constantly towards the flank
- Lateral recumbency

## Treatment

- Treatment should be given as soon as possible. Use 250- 300 ml, or more, of a 40% solution of calcium borogluconate.
- The combined solutions contain additional ingredients such as magnesium, phosphorus and phosphorus Inj cal. Mag. Solution like Mifex (250-300 ml I\V)

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- Injection of the solution should be given in several places under the skin on the neck or behind the shoulder, unless the cow is in a coma or there are other reasons for desiring a quick response.
- Injection given slowly
- Farmer or assistance is also available there to avoid other problems at the time of response to treatment.
- Change the Cows position to avoid tympany
- Recovered cows should not be milked for at least 24 hours.