



Recommended Pre-Sale Videoendoscopy Guidelines

Timing of examination

- Time interval between video acquisition and 1st day of the sales session in which the horse sells should be less than 21 days. This time interval should apply across all age-groups.

Identification

- Horse should be identified with embedded/on-screen digital annotation, and annotations should include date of examination and name of veterinary surgeon/practice. Use of videoendoscopic equipment without this capability should be discouraged.
- Footage of horse, microchip scanning &/or relevant page from sales catalogue may be included but is not mandatory.

Image Quality

- The video recording should comprise a single, unbroken and unedited stream of footage. Ideally video should be a minimum of 720p (HD ready), in .mp4 format.
- It is not recommended to use the .avi format.

Endoscopic Technique

- Either nostril may be used for introduction of the endoscope, however every attempt should be made to maintain the endoscope centrally in the nasopharynx to minimise parallax error when assessing the laryngeal cartilages. Orientation of the laryngeal image should be vertical at all times.
- The initial footage should permit clear, unobstructed visualisation of the entire epiglottis, arytenoid cartilages and vocal cords/ventricles. The endoscope should be advanced close enough to the larynx to allow thorough assessment of the mucosal surfaces in order to permit detection of ulceration or chondritis. Touching or prodding of the arytenoid cartilages with the endoscope is to be discouraged.
- Laryngeal function grading systems are founded on assessment of arytenoid cartilage movements. Video footage should permit visualisation of the larynx not only at maximal abduction but also periods of full relaxation, in order that the full range and synchrony of arytenoid movements can be observed.
- In order to permit detection of both static and dynamic abnormalities, the minimum acceptable time of direct visualisation of the larynx (ie exclusive of passage of the endoscope through the nasal passages) should be at least 45 seconds and preferably 60 seconds. This time should be used constructively by the acquiring veterinarian to stimulate the larynx when necessary; long videos that do not document the full range of movements should be discouraged. It is stressed that quality of video footage and technique used are of much greater importance than overall length of video.
- Full arytenoid abduction may be demonstrated/stimulated by a variety of means including stimulation of swallowing via introduction of flush solution, nasal occlusion or exercise. It is recommended that the video footage contains good visualisation of at least 3 swallows. Please note that whichever method of laryngeal stimulation is used it is vital that the larynx is seen during full relaxation during the examination, and that exercise immediately prior to video acquisition may therefore be counterproductive.