

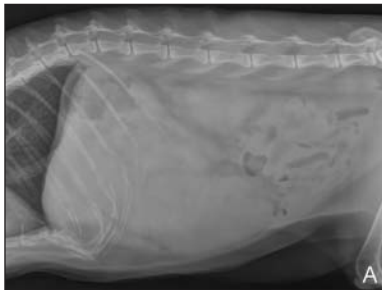
JAVMA News

While a Mexican university appeals an accreditation decision from the AVMA Council on Education, some veterinarians debate whether the school measures up to the gold standard. Two candidates for AVMA leadership posts detail their visions for the organization and the profession. *See PAGE 1030*

Letters to the Editor

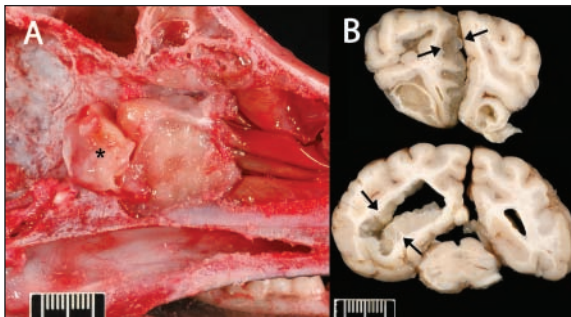
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What Is Your Diagnosis?



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Pathology in Practice



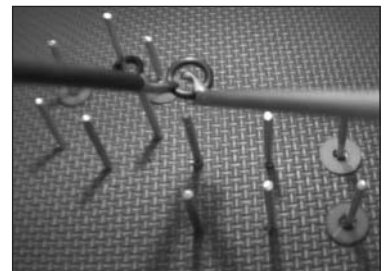
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Animal Behavior Case of the Month

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Assessment of laparoscopic skills before and after simulation training

In human medicine, simulation training is considered essential for surgeons, surgery residents, and fellows who perform laparoscopic surgery. In contrast, there is a relative paucity of in-

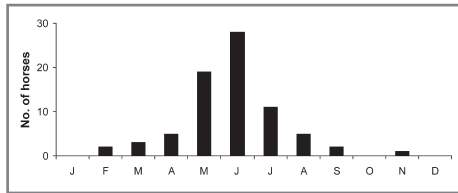


formation related to training and assessment of laparoscopic skills among veterinary surgeons. Results of an evaluation study involving 8 individuals with and 25 individuals without experience in veterinary videoendoscopic surgery suggested that basic skills scores obtained with the McGill Inanimate Simulator for Training and Evaluation of Laparoscopic Skills were associated with extent of laparoscopic training and that simulation training with a canine abdominal model could increase skills scores for individuals without previous laparoscopic experience. *See PAGE 1079*

Stored equine colostrum for treatment of foals at risk for failure of transfer of passive immunity

Results of a new study indicate that treatment with stored colostrum may help prevent failure of transfer of passive immunity in at-risk foals, but that some foals may still be at risk for FTPI despite suckling of or treatment with colostrum with an adequate colostrum refractive index. In the study, 224 Thoroughbred foals from 183 mares were followed, and foals of dams that produced colostrum with a cRI < 20% were treated with ≥ 300 mL of stored colostrum. In total, 30 (13%) foals were treated with stored colostrum. Twelve (5.4%) foals had partial FTPI and 1 (0.4%) had FTPI. Nine of the foals with FTPI or partial FTPI had suckled mares producing colostrum with a cRI $\geq 20\%$, and 2 had been treated with stored colostrum. *See PAGE 1085*

An epidemiologic study of anhidrosis in horses in Florida

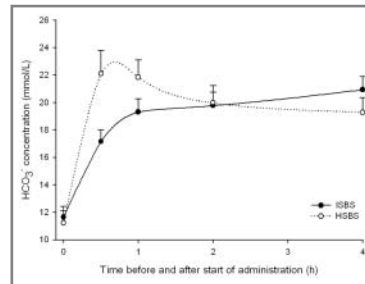


In horses, anhidrosis is characterized by a persistent reduction in or lack of sweat output.

To obtain more information on the prevalence of and factors associated with anhidrosis, a questionnaire was sent to horse farm owners and managers in Florida. Responses were obtained from 500 farms representing 4,620 horses. The prevalence of anhidrosis was 11% (56/500) at the farm level and 2% (83/4,620) at the animal level. Farms in central and southern Florida were more likely to have horses with anhidrosis than were farms in northern Florida, and show and riding instruction operations were more likely to have horses with anhidrosis than were ranch operations. At the animal level, breed, foaling place, and family history were associated with anhidrosis. *See PAGE 1091*

Effects of sodium bicarbonate solutions on venous acid-base status in dehydrated calves

An important factor in decreasing mortality rates in calves with diarrhea is administration of appropriate electrolyte solutions, but controversy exists regarding the use of hypertonic versus isotonic sodium bicarbonate solutions in dehydrated calves with strong ion (metabolic) acidosis. In a clinical trial, severely



dehydrated, diarrheic calves were randomly assigned to receive isotonic (1.3%) NaHCO₃ solution (65 mL/kg, IV; n = 30) or hypertonic (8.4%) NaHCO₃ solution (10 mL/kg, IV; 20). The 2 solutions were similarly effective in correction of strong ion acidosis. However, administration of hypertonic NaHCO₃ solution did not improve hydration status as well as did administration of a larger volume of isotonic NaHCO₃ solution. *See PAGE 1098*

Effects of anesthesia and surgery on blood gas values and lactate concentrations in yellow perch, walleye pike, and koi

New findings suggest that in fish, high blood lactate concentrations following surgery may be predictive of poorer short-term postoperative survival rates. In a prospective cohort study, blood samples were collected from 10 yellow perch, 5 walleye pike, and 8 koi before and during anesthesia and immediately after surgery, and blood gas and blood lactate concentrations were measured. All walleye and koi survived, but 2 perch died. Blood lactate concentration immediately after surgery was significantly lower in the 8 surviving perch than in the 2 perch that did not survive. In all 3 species, blood lactate concentrations increased significantly from before anesthesia to immediately after surgery. *See PAGE 1104*