

ENDOSCOPIC EVIDENCES OF UPPER RESPIRATORY TRACT DISORDERS IN EQUINE

Khalifa Ashoura

University of Tripoli, Libya

Background: Upper respiratory tract (URT) obstructive disorders are a common problem among horses and are often associated with poor performance and respiratory noise during exercise.

Aim: The study is proposed to visualize the upper respiratory tract of horses and donkeys by endoscopic examination, aiming to highlight and clarify the disease conditions that causing respiratory distress and subsequently affect negatively on the work and sports ability of these animals.

Materials & Methods: The present study employed the endoscopic examinations on the upper respiratory tract of 45 stallions, 30 mares, 10 foals and 38 donkeys, suffered from upper respiratory tract distresses. These animals were of various ages and weights.

Results: Investigation of these animals proved that the upper respiratory tract disorders were numerous in horses and prevailing in donkeys. The pharyngeal region was more affected than the other parts of the upper respiratory tract. In addition, squamous cell carcinoma, cyst and granuloma in the guttural pouches have been taken care of, regardless of its rare occurrence. The ethmoidal glandular cyst acini, pharyngeal mycosis and pharyngeal tonsillitis were considered critical evidences for the study.

Conclusion: Endoscopy of the upper respiratory tract of horses and donkeys should be a standard diagnostic technique for all upper respiratory disorders in equine.

dr.kmussa@yahoo.com