

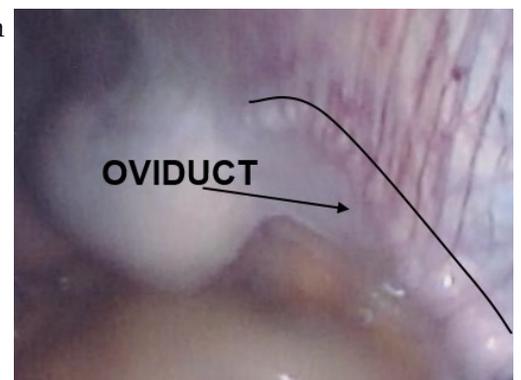
## Previous VET NOTES

- May 1, 2014 - Palmar/plantar osteochondral disease
- April 1, 2014 - Embryo biopsy
- March 12, 2014 - Transvaginal Aspiration
- March 2014 - Equine stem cell therapies
- February 2014 - Kissing Spines: An overview of impinging dorsal spinous processes
- January 2014 - Sequestra: Leave them in or take them out
- October 2013 - Equine Metabolic Syndrome—More than just a fat horse!
- June 2013 - Laryngeal ultrasound: A new tool in the diagnosis of equine upper airway abnormalities
- February 2013 - “Gut rocks” in horses
- December 2012 - Pigeon Fever
- October 2012 - What are summer sores?
- June 2012 - Eye injuries in the horse
- April 2012 - “Stones”
- March 2012 - Expanded equine veterinary laboratory services at Peterson & Smith
- January 2012 - The newest digital technology – here at Peterson & Smith
- December 2011 - Foaling Protocol

## Clearing an obstructed oviduct with topically applied Prostaglandin E2 using a standing laparoscopic approach

Is your mare having a hard time conceiving? Like humans, some mares have difficulty becoming pregnant and sometimes it is difficult to know why. Once all the usual things have been ruled out, there is now a procedure that is being performed on mares to open their oviducts. This is along the lines of the mare’s last-ditch effort to become pregnant.

Unfortunately, there is no way to absolutely prove this is the problem prior to the surgery. This technique is performed when a mare without a uterine infection and with seemingly normal ovaries that ovulate normally fails to conceive. According to a recent article, ‘this infertility can be caused by oviduct concretions that prevent the oocyte from reaching the site of fertilization.’ (Seabaugh, 2014) During this procedure, the surgeon will do a laparoscopic topical application of a pharmacologic dose of prostaglandin E2 (PGE2) on each oviduct. PGE2 is what the equine embryo secretes, but in much smaller amounts. When physiologic amounts of PGE2 are secreted, it can become bound to the musculature of the oviduct and this can hinder embryonic transport. According to the authors, a large dose of PGE2 applied to the external surface of an occluded oviduct may help restore patency to the oviduct. (Seabaugh, 2014)



(Continued on page 2)

**Donnie E. Slone, Jr., DVM, DACVS**

In a previous study cited in this article, 14 of 15 barren mares conceived in the same or following breeding season after having this procedure done. At Peterson & Smith, we have had two cases in need of the laparoscopic procedure. Dr. Slone has performed this technique on both mares referred by Dr. Matthews. The most recent mare that presented having difficulty becoming pregnant was a maiden mare. Her previous owners tried to breed her three separate years with no success. Her current owner tried to breed her last year and also had no success. This year, after consulting with Dr. Matthews, they decided to have the laparoscopic procedure done and she is now pregnant. She became pregnant the first breeding after the procedure was done. This procedure may not work on all mares but so far, the outcome is pretty positive.

Seabaugh KA, Schumacher J. Urogenital surgery performed with the mare standing. *Vet Clin North Am Equine Pract* 2014;30(1):191-209.

- November 2011 - Breeding season is just around the corner . . .
- October 2011 - Why do an MRI?
- September 2011 - ICSI—cutting edge reproductive technology
- August 2011 - The pre-purchase exam
- July 2011 - Furosemide and exercise-induced pulmonary hemorrhage (EIPH)
- June 2011 - Eastern Equine Encephalitis—have you vaccinated?
- May 2011 - Under tack dynamic respiratory scope
- December 2010 - Equine Piroplasmosis
- October 2010 - Sand colic
- September 2010 - Vaccines



**Bring your questions, no need to call, just join us on  
Tuesday, June 24, 2014, 5:00pm in our Conference Room**

### OTHER SERVICES PETERSON & SMITH

**Foal out your mares at our Reproduction Center**—24-hour technician monitoring, a veterinarian at the foaling, Foal Alert monitoring, large indoor foaling stalls, and much more—call (352) 307 3000.

Don't forget that Peterson & Smith Veterinary Laboratory offers the industry standard Radioimmunoassay (RIA) **testing for progesterone**, T3 and T4 levels.

Ask your vet about the **new pH testing strips available for predicting foaling** based on the pH of the mammary secretions. "It is as good as if not better than the calcium testing and very inexpensive" said Carol K. Clark, Medicine Internist.

### MORE VET NOTES CAN BE FOUND AT:

**[www.petersonsmith.com/client-resources/equine-education/vet-notes](http://www.petersonsmith.com/client-resources/equine-education/vet-notes)**



4747 SW 60th Avenue  
Ocala, FL 34474

Phone: (352) 237-6151  
Fax: (352) 237-0629  
Email: PSEH@petersonsmith.com

*A Tradition of Leadership and  
Excellence in Equine Medicine*