

# AIRWAY ENDSCOPY



Sometimes your horse may need a detailed examination of its respiratory system, this is best carried out using an endoscope. We have a portable endoscopy unit which means we can examine your horse out on the yard or at our hospital to help diagnose and treat any respiratory disorders.

Endoscopy on the airways can be performed for a variety of reasons:

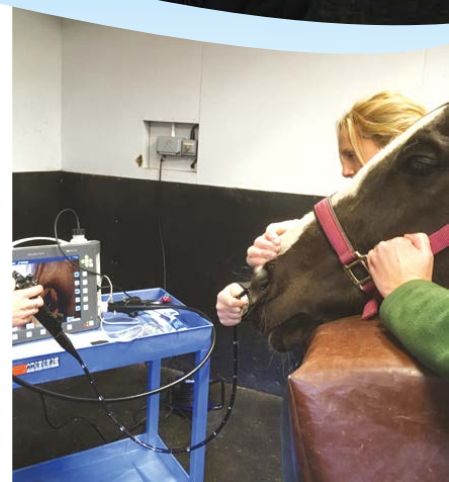
- Chronic coughing
- Investigation of a nasal discharge.
- Testing for airway infections e.g. "Strangles"
- As part of a poor performance investigation.
- To assess the function of the horse's larynx if the horse is making a noise at exercise.
- Investigation of increased respiratory rate at rest.

Usually endoscopy will be performed in the stocks at our hospital in Hythe, however in some circumstances (e.g.. Strangles investigation) the equipment is portable and we can come to your yard to perform the procedure.

In most cases (unless we are checking laryngeal asymmetry) airway endoscopy will be performed under sedation.

Depending on why the endoscopy is being performed saline may be passed into your horse's trachea and /or lungs which will then be analysed to assess cell type and to check if there are any bacteria present. These are referred to as a tracheal wash (TW) or a bronchial alveolar lavage (BAL).

Some clients wish to be present during the procedure and our equine vets at Seadown are more than happy to talk you through the procedure as it is performed on your horse.



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