

McKENZIE, BRYSON & MARSHALL

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Preparation of horses for Gastroscopy

Horse being scoped in the MORNING:

1. Can be fed normally until approximately 6pm the evening before.
2. Remove all food, hay and straw after this meal.
3. Stable the horse on bedding that a horse will not eat, and/or muzzle the horse.
4. Remove water last thing at night or early in the morning, at least 4 hours prior to gastroscopy.
5. No food, water or grazing in the morning before the procedure.

Horse being scoped in the AFTERNOON:

1. Can be fed normally the evening before.
2. Remove all food, hay and straw after 9pm the night before.
3. Stable the horse on bedding that a horse will not eat, and/or muzzle the horse.
4. Remove water last thing at night or early in the morning, at least 4 hours prior to gastroscopy.
5. No food, water or grazing on the day until approximately 1-2 hours after the procedure.

The procedure:

1. Gastroscopy requires sedation – please ask in advance if your horse is due to race or compete soon after the procedure.
2. Three people are required for the gastroscopy: a trained veterinarian, a handler for the horse, and a veterinary assistant.

Management after scoping:

1. Water can be offered immediately after the procedure, if recommended by the vet.
2. Moist feed or grazing can be offered when the horse is “fully awake” from the sedation; usually about 1 hour or after transport home if they have to travel.

MBM EQUINE