

Supplementary Item 1. Online questionnaire of veterinary practitioners' selection of diagnostic tests for the primary evaluation of colic in the horse

What type of practice are you employed by currently?

- Mixed practice
- Equine practice - first opinion only
- Equine practice - first and second opinion
- Equine referral only
- Other

If you have selected other please state

Please indicate where you are based

- UK
- Other

Please list any further qualifications you have achieved since graduation

**Diagnostic Tests**

Please rank the diagnostic tests in order of importance when assessing a critical case of colic (1 - most important, 6 - least important)

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Rectal examination	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Abdominocentesis	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Nasogastric intubation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Haematology and biochemistry	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ultrasound	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Response to analgesia/treatment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please list any other diagnostic tests that you would use to evaluate a case of colic that have not already been mentioned above.

Please list any other diagnostic tests that you currently do not use but think would be valuable in the assessment of a colic.

Please explain why you are not or cannot use them.

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## Clinical Decision Making

The following section will focus on the diagnostic tests used to assess a primary case of colic. Our aim is to get a better understanding of what the limitations are behind the use of certain diagnostic tests.

### Rectal examination

Please estimate what percentage of cases you would perform a rectal examination in?

Under what scenario would you find the rectal examination the most useful diagnostic test?

We would like to know more about the cases where you decide not to use this diagnostic test.

Please could you select the 3 main reasons why you might choose not to perform a rectal examination (Ranked 1 to 3 - **1 being the most common reason why you would not use this test**)

Reason ranked  
number 1

If you have chosen "other" as an option please describe further

Reason ranked  
number 2

If you have chosen "other" as an option please describe further

Reason ranked  
number 3

If you have chosen "other" as an option please describe further

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### Abdominocentesis

Please estimate what percentage of cases you would perform abdominocentesis in?

Under what scenario would you find abdominocentesis the most useful diagnostic test?

We would like to know more about the cases where you decide not to use this diagnostic test.

Please could you select the 3 main reasons why you might choose not to perform abdominocentesis (Ranked 1 to 3 - **1 being the most common reason why you would not use this test**)

Reason ranked  
number 1

If you have chosen "other" as an option please describe further

Reason ranked  
number 2

If you have chosen "other" as an option please describe further

Reason ranked  
number 3

If you have chosen "other" as an option please describe further

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### Nasogastric intubation

Please estimate what percentage of cases you would perform nasogastric intubation in?

Under what scenario would you find nasogastric intubation the most useful diagnostic test?

We would like to know more about the cases where you decide not to use this diagnostic test.

Please could you select the 3 main reasons why you might choose not to perform nasogastric intubation (Ranked 1 to 3 - **1 being the most common reason why you would not use this test**)

Reason ranked  
number 1

If you have chosen "other" as an option please describe further

Reason ranked  
number 2

If you have chosen "other" as an option please describe further

Reason ranked  
number 3

If you have chosen "other" as an option please describe further

**Haematology and biochemistry**

Please estimate what percentage of cases you would perform haematology and biochemistry in?

Under what scenario would you find haematology and biochemistry the most useful diagnostic test?

We would like to know more about the cases where you decide not to use this diagnostic test.

Please could you select the 3 main reasons why you might choose not to perform haematology and biochemistry (Ranked 1 to 3 - **1 being the most common reason why you would not use this test**)

Reason ranked number 1

If you have chosen "other" as an option please describe further

Reason ranked number 2

If you have chosen "other" as an option please describe further

Reason ranked number 3

If you have chosen "other" as an option please describe further

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**Ultrasound**

Please estimate what percentage of cases you would perform ultrasound in?

Under what scenario would you find ultrasound the most useful diagnostic test?

We would like to know more about the cases where you decide not to use this diagnostic test.

Please could you select the 3 main reasons why you might choose not to perform an ultrasound examination (Ranked 1 to 3 - **1 being the most common reason why you would not use this test**)

Reason ranked  
number 1

If you have chosen "other" as an option please describe further

Reason ranked  
number 2

If you have chosen "other" as an option please describe further

Reason ranked  
number 3

If you have chosen "other" as an option please describe further

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### Response to analgesia/treatment

Please estimate what percentage of cases you would use response to analgesia/treatment as a diagnostic tool?

Under what scenario would you find the response to analgesia and treatment the most useful diagnostic test?

We would like to know more about the cases where you decide not to use this diagnostic test.

Please could you select the 3 main reasons why you might choose not to use response to analgesia/treatment as a diagnostic tool (Ranked 1 to 3 - **1 being the most common reason why you would not use this test**)

Reason ranked  
number 1

If you have chosen "other" as an option please describe further

Reason ranked  
number 2

If you have chosen "other" as an option please describe further

Reason ranked  
number 3

If you have chosen "other" as an option please describe further

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Are there any other diagnostic tests that you would use more frequently than the ones listed above?

- Yes  
 No

Please state the diagnostic test.

Please estimate what percentage of cases you would use this test as a diagnostic tool?

Under what scenario would you find this diagnostic test the most useful?

We would like to know more about the cases where you decide not to use this diagnostic test.

Please could you select the 3 main reasons why you might choose not to use this specific diagnostic test in the evaluation of a colic (Ranked 1 to 3 - **1 being the most common reason why you would not use this test**)

Reason ranked  
number 1

If you have chosen "other" as an option please describe further

Reason ranked  
number 2

If you have chosen "other" as an option please describe further

Reason ranked  
number 3

If you have chosen "other" as an option please describe further

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Thank you for completing the survey!

The data you have kindly provided us with will be used to formulate a set of guidelines that will detail the best-practice approach to equine colic.

Please contact us if you have any queries regarding the questionnaire or the research we are conducting.

Contact details:

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