SOP No:         ATT 026

SUBJECT:        Venipuncture in horses

DATE ISSUED:    24.06.2009

REVISED:        15.05.2013
                20/04/2016

POLICY:         Minimum number of 2 operators required.

                Demonstrator: Operators should be familiar with the correct
techniques and the anatomy of horses before demonstrating this
procedure.

                Students: Procedures should be clearly demonstrated before
student attempts them. Students should be aware of the
requirements for aseptic technique.

PRECAUTIONS:    Operators must use gloves and disinfect them between animals to
prevent the transmission of blood-borne diseases

                Wear sturdy footwear

                Equipment must be cleaned between animals

                Wash hands and exposed body parts thoroughly with soap and
water after handling horses.

                Procedures should only be attempted two times per animal

                Animals may be sampled twice daily.

EQUIPMENT:      21 gauge needles

                10 ml Vacutainers or syringes

                Vacutainer holders

                Alcohol Swabs

                Halter

PROCEDURE:      Jugular bleeding

                Blood can be collected from the jugular vein in either side of the
neck in horses of all ages.

                1. The handler restrains the animal with the head slightly
                  elevated. The jugular groove is identified. The vein is occluded
                  with digital pressure at the base of the jugular groove.

                2. A needle is advanced through the skin either with a firm thrust
                  into the jugular vein or by gently easing the needle through the
                  skin and into the jugular vein at a 35° angle towards the head.
                  When the desired volume is received, digital pressure may be
                  removed and the needle withdrawn from the vein.

                On completion of procedure observe animal for signs of excessive
distress and treated if necessary.
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RECOMMENDATIONS:

REFERENCES