

WORLD WIDE ASSOCIATION OF EQUINE DENTISTRY UK

Standard of Practice

[Note: The specific meanings of terms marked by superscript numbers are set forth in the glossary, appended.]

Aim

The aim of this STANDARD OF PRACTICE is to promote sound animal welfare practices for equine dentistry through professional and knowledgeable treatment and liaison with qualified professionals.

Objective

The Equine Dentist will perform the tasks set out in this STANDARD OF PRACTICE to a level no less than that stated for each procedure. They will promote the health and well being of the horses they attend. The Equine Dentist shall consult with a more experience Equine Dentist and recommend consultation with a Veterinarian when necessary.

Index

[Floating](#)

[Floating Molars](#)

[Floating Incisors](#)

[Removal of Deciduous Teeth](#)

[Floating of Canines](#)

[Removal of Wolf Teeth](#)

[Advanced Procedures](#)

[Cheek Tooth Rehabilitation and Incisor Realignment](#)

[Restraints](#)

WORLD WIDE ASSOCIATION OF EQUINE DENTISTRY UK

Floating

Object: To shape the horse's teeth to correct abnormalities and balance the mouth y promoting efficient mastication through full occlusion and group function.

A proper standard of floating involves:

1. Removing points from the teeth.
2. Removing hooks, beaks, ramps, and rims.
3. Correcting waves, high molars or steps.
4. Re-establishing correct molar table angles.
5. Shaping the lingual aspect of the lower arcades and the buccal aspect of the upper arcades to a rounded smooth surface.
6. Remove points from the lingual aspect of the upper arcades and the buccal aspect of the lower arcade.
7. Create bit-seats as required for various biting preferences. Bit seats must be uniform on both sides.
8. Smooth the ridges of the lateral aspect of superior premolars to accommodate a cavesson.

At the completion of floating

There should be no evidence of excessive trauma due to floating.

Rinse the horse's mouth with antiseptic and water solution to clean the mouth and remove tooth fragments resulting from filing.

[Return to Index](#)

WORLD WIDE ASSOCIATION OF EQUINE DENTISTRY UK

Floating The Incisors

Object: Assist the occlusion and lateral excursion of the cheek teeth, creating equilibration of pressure among the incisors, molars, and TMI.

Procedure:

1. Remove hooks.
2. Reduce protuberant teeth.
3. Align incisors.

[Return to Index](#)

WORLD WIDE ASSOCIATION OF EQUINE DENTISTRY UK

Removal of Deciduous Teeth

Object: Promote correct alignment of the teeth and reduce discomfort to the horse.

Procedure:

1. Remove deciduous tooth at the correct time.
2. Remove any fragments, splinters, or roots.
3. Remove any impacted feed or foreign matter.
4. Irrigate the mouth.

[Return to Index](#)

WORLD WIDE ASSOCIATION OF EQUINE DENTISTRY UK

Removal of Wolf Teeth

Object: Complete removal of wolf teeth to promote comfort and welfare of the horse.

Procedure:

1. Extract wolf teeth.
2. Extract roots or fragments when necessary.
3. Clean and irrigate the mouth.

[Return to Index](#)

WORLD WIDE ASSOCIATION OF EQUINE DENTISTRY UK

Floating Canines

Object: Reduce the length of the tooth and smooth its surface to allow free movement of the tongue, prevent interference with the bit and alleviate lip, cheek, palate and tongue trauma.

Procedure:

1. Reduce the length of the canine consistent with the horse's age.
2. Buff and float the tooth to remove sharp edges.
3. Ensure consistency on both sides.
4. Assist eruption of blind canines when appropriate.

[Return to Index](#)

WORLD WIDE ASSOCIATION OF EQUINE DENTISTRY UK

Advanced Procedures

N.B. Some of these procedures may need to be performed under veterinary supervision.

Cheek Tooth Rehabilitation And Incisor Realignment

Object: To correct or compensate for advanced mouth disorders; to obtain and maintain maximum possible occlusion and lateral excursion of the mandible.

Procedure:

1. Remove loose, deceased, damaged and diseased teeth. .
2. Shape teeth as required to achieve maximum possible occlusion and lateral excursion.
- 3 Correct or compensate for incorrect occlusal table angles.

[Return to Index](#)

WORLD WIDE ASSOCIATION OF EQUINE DENTISTRY UK

Restraints

The welfare of the animal must have foremost consideration at all times. If restraint is necessary then the type of restraint must be as humane as possible, and conform to animal welfare regulations.

[Return to Index](#)