

SOP No:	ATT 019
SUBJECT:	Rumenocentesis – Rumen Fluid Collection in Cattle
POLICY:	This procedure may only be performed by, or under the supervision, of an operator skilled in the technique
PRECAUTIONS:	Aseptic conditions are required to avoid introduction of pathogens into the abdominal cavity. Restraint of the animal is necessary for the procedure, ideally a crush with a headlock
EQUIPMENT:	16 gauge x 12 to 15 cm needles (or similar) 5 to 10 mL syringes Animal clippers Alcohol (or other surgical preparation solution) swabs Iodine (or other surgical preparation solution) swabs
PROCEDURE:	The site of introduction of the needle is midway along an imaginary line drawn between the costochondral junction of the last rib and the patella. An alternative site for the procedure is located on the lower angle of the left paralumbar fossae. Prior to introducing the needle, the area is surgically prepared. The needle is introduced into the rumen and with minimal aspiration a small sample of fluid can be collected.
RECOMMENDATIONS:	Fluid analysis will guide subsequent decisions.
DATE APPROVED:	April 2009
REVISED:	

REFERENCES

1. Malmö J, 2005. Diagnosing disease in herds of cattle including toxicosis, clinical pathology and crush side test. *Medicine of Dairy Cattle: Be the Boss of Bovine Medicine Seminar*