

- SOP No:** ATT 037
- SUBJECT** The correct position for the horse handler to restrain a horse during clinical examination and veterinary procedures
- POLICY:** These procedures may only be performed by operators who have been educated in the correct techniques, and under the supervision of their Demonstrator who is skilled in horse handling. Leather boots must be worn.
- PRECAUTIONS:** Be constantly aware of the horse's body language and responses. At all times work calmly and quietly around them. Make sure gates are closed securely. Ensure there are no hazards which could cause injury. Make sure you do not get into a position where you could get crushed between the horse and the rails, gate, etc, or kicked.
- EQUIPMENT:** Safe stock yards, halter and lead rope
- PROCEDURE:**
1. The handler holding the horse should stand on the same side as the veterinarian, near the shoulder of the horse.
 2. The handler must be facing the veterinarian, and should not become distracted from his/her duty but paying constant attention to the horse.
 3. If the horse misbehaves, and especially if the veterinarian is in danger of being kicked, the horse's head should be pulled towards the handler so that its body moves away from the veterinarian.
 4. The handler must never stand directly in front of the horse.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

DATE ISSUED: 24.06.2009

REVISED:

REFERENCES

1. Rose, R.J. and Hodgson, D.R. Manual of Equine Practice. Second Edition. W.B. Saunders. Philadelphia. 2000.