

THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES
LARGE ANIMAL TEACHING

SOP No: ATT 046

SUBJECT: Administer a subcutaneous injection to a horse

POLICY: These procedures may only be performed by operators who have been educated in the correct techniques, and under the supervision of their skilled Demonstrator. Leather boots must be worn.

PRECAUTIONS: The horse will be placed in a crush and will be suitably restrained by a skilled handler standing on the same side as the person injecting. A nose twitch would only be used if the animal is particularly fractious.

EQUIPMENT: 21Gauge Needles
5 ml Syringes
Sterile saline
Swabs & alcohol
Halter & lead
Twitch
Crush

PROCEDURE:

1. Using the halter and attached lead, the horse's head is gently restrained by a competent horse handler, standing on the same side as the person administering the subcutaneous injection.
2. The area on the neck to be injected is swabbed with alcohol.
3. A pinch of skin in this area is lifted off the neck, and a needle inserted below the skin.
4. The syringe is attached to the needle and aspirated to ensure the needle is not in a blood vessel. The injection is administered slowly.
5. Once completed, the needle is removed.

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.