



ENDURANCE CONFERENCE

7-8 April 2018

Dubai

New Veterinary Measures

Göran Akerström, FEI Veterinary Director

Limb sensitivity

“Horses are not eligible to compete when a limb, or part of a limb, is hyposensitive or hypersensitive”

- Safeguard the welfare of the horse,
- Ensure a level playing field for all Athletes.

Evidence of “blocks” and neurectomies in endurance competitions



Research & Development

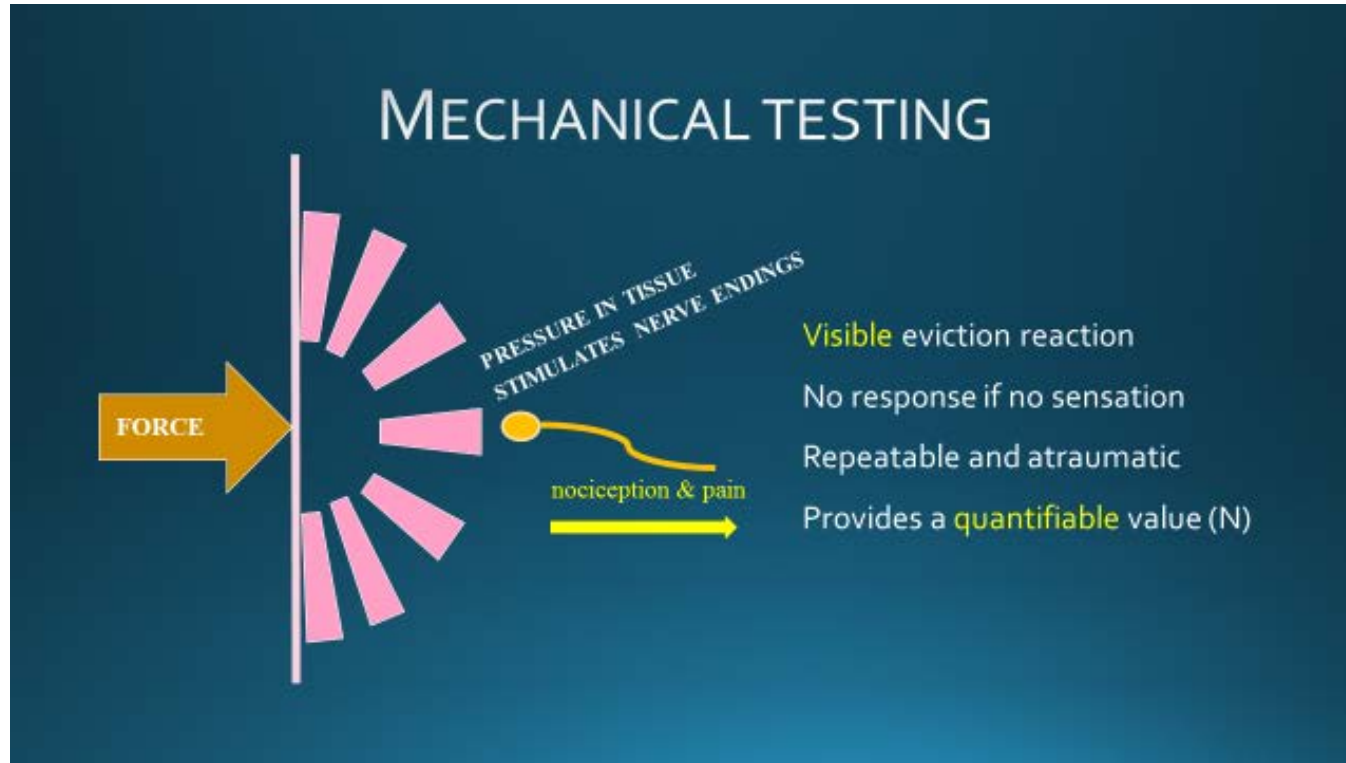
Mechanical Nociceptive Thresholds: Establishing norms of sensitivity for endurance horses

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The principle



The tool

PROD AND LIMB ACTUATOR



"Soft" transducer :

- ✓ Air from syringe increases pressure in pneumatic actuator
- ✓ Pressure drives blunt-ended pin on skin
- ✓ Rate controlled by lights
- ✓ Stimulus stopped when horse reacts (picks up leg, stamps, noses leg)
- ✓ Force reading held on display

Multiple tests

- Rest
- Icing
- Race
- Blocked



Consistent and
clear results

MNT TESTING IN THE FIELD

- 2mm pointed tip
- Custom made pastern strap
- Remotely controlled
- Bilateral positioning



The complex block contains three photographs. The first is a close-up of a circular, textured device with a small white sensor in the center. The second is a close-up of the device attached to a horse's hoof with a black strap. The third is a full-body view of a brown horse standing in a white room, with the device visible on both of its front legs.

Actions

- To be published in a refereed veterinary journal
- FEI Veterinary Committee propose rulechange > FEI General Assembly 2018
- Produce protocol
- Educate specialist Official Veterinarians
- Implementation 2019

Detection of snake venoms

- Snake venoms are used for nerve blocking
- All snake venoms are banned substances
- Previously detectable but difficult in large scale screening
- New method is being developed

Development of in-race testing

- Evidence of heart rate modulating substances being used
- Microdosing of shorttime acting substances



Need for in-race testing method

- Saliva sampling after Vet Gate
- Research & Development starts 2018

Controlling anabolic substances

- Evidence of anabolic substance use in endurance
- All anabolic substances are Banned Substances
- Methods for hair analyses are now well established and successfully used by Racing Authorities world wide
- Anabolic substances can be traced many months back
- FEI Approved Laboratories provides the service