

July 30th, 2020

Re:
Horse's Name: Vain Attraction 18
Sire: Palentino
Dam: Vain Attraction
Breed: Thoroughbred
Colour: Bay
Gender: Female
YOB: 2018
Left shoulder brand: SUN
Right shoulder brand: 35 over 8
Insurance status: Unknown
Trainer: Mr Andrew Dale

Dear Mr Dale,

Vain Attraction 18, was first examined by Dr Bryan Hilbert at the property of Ms Jess Grossman and Matt Sheather on July 28th, 2020. There was a foul-smelling, draining wound on the ventral aspect of the right mandible. The mandibular bone was exposed and the filly resented any close manipulation or exploration of the area. The wound was first noticed by Jess Grossman when the horse arrived at the property approximately 7 days earlier and was presumed to have occurred during transport.

Dr Hilbert was worried that a penetrating injury may have damaged the mandible and/or the alveolus of the adjacent lower premolar tooth. Dr Hilbert was concerned that either of these two possibilities would mean a potentially serious outcome and was inclined to send the filly to Charles Sturt University Veterinary Clinical Centre for imaging of the mandible and a closer dental assessment under sedation.

The filly was admitted to the University Veterinary Hospital on July 30th, 2020. At the time of presentation the filly was in good health and body condition (weight 442kg), and her vital parameters were all within normal limits. There was a 6cm by 3cm granulating wound on the left ventro-lateral aspect of the horizontal mandible, with bony thickening, soft tissue swelling and scalding of the surrounding skin. There was an associated foul odour coming from the mouth (halitosis).

Further close examination required sedation the wound extended directly to the mandibular cortical bone and the associated skin wound extended approximately 3cm in a proximal direction. No foreign bodies were found and the region was flushed extensively with sterile saline.

No abnormalities were seen on radiographs of the mandible and there was no involvement of the adjacent premolar teeth. Examination of the head, and oral cavity revealed normal bite alignment and mandibular/temporomandibular joint movement. There were grass seeds embedded underneath the tongue and in the lips, which would account for the bad breath but no oral cavity wounds or abnormalities were seen.

The filly's dentition was consistent with her stated age. The filly's deciduous or baby teeth (Numbers 706 and 806) are slightly dysplastic on the occlusal (biting) surface, but this is not cause for concern. The filly has two maxillary wolf teeth.

As a further precaution, the filly was given one treatment with phenylbutazone (4.4mg/kg) and a tetanus toxoid. She was discharged from the hospital with advice to flush the wound once daily and to monitor the healing process closely. Even with relatively superficial injuries that involve bone, a sequestrum can form and this would delay healing and would require further more invasive treatment.

If you have any concerns please contact me at the Veterinary Clinical Centre on 02 6933 2604, or Dr Bryan Hilbert on 0434280660.

Yours faithfully,

Claire Dennis

Dr Claire Dennis
BVSc (Hons), MANZCVS (Equine Dentistry)
Veterinary Clinical Centre
Charles Sturt University
P: 026933 2604
E: vcc@csu.edu.au