

Racing and Breeding in Mainland Part I

Speaker:

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香港賽馬會
The Hong Kong Jockey Club

Veterinary Support for the Racing Industry in Mainland China – Challenges and Opportunities

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Equestrian Sports in China





Horse Racing





Thoroughbred Racing





Veterinary Care for the Racehorse

Why?



Veterinary Care for the Racehorse

Why?

- Welfare
- Safety
- Quality & consistency
- Integrity
- Credibility



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Veterinary Care for the Racehorse

What's Available?



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- Few vets experienced in modern equine practice
- Limited clinical facilities
 - One equine operating theatre
 - Few, sporadic x-ray and ultrasound units



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Veterinary Care for the Racehorse

Challenges – *General Issues*



Veterinary Care for the Racehorse

Challenges – *General Issues 1*

- Poor status of veterinarians:
 - Little authority to handle medicines
 - Little authority or confidence to command change
 - Little attraction to future generations



Veterinary Care for the Racehorse

Challenges – *General Issues 2*

- Poor opportunities and employment options
- Low pay
- National structure in modern form still in its infancy

The 4th Chinese Veterinary Conference

Forum on Veterinary Development in China

China Veterinary Technology and Instruments Exhibition

Chinese Veterinary Day

27th-30th, Oct, 2013, Guilin, Guangxi, China



Veterinary Care for the Racehorse

Challenges – *General Issues 3*

- Insufficient support for veterinary profession by equestrian industry
- Lack of awareness of owners
- Equine studies not included in undergraduate curriculum in most Vet Schools



Veterinary Care for the Racehorse

Challenges – *Specific Issues*



Veterinary Care for the Racehorse

Challenges – *Specific Issues 1*

- Lack of clinical facilities and equipment
- Limited medicines and variable quality
- Lack of experience in technical procedures



Veterinary Care for the Racehorse

Challenges – *Specific Issues 2*

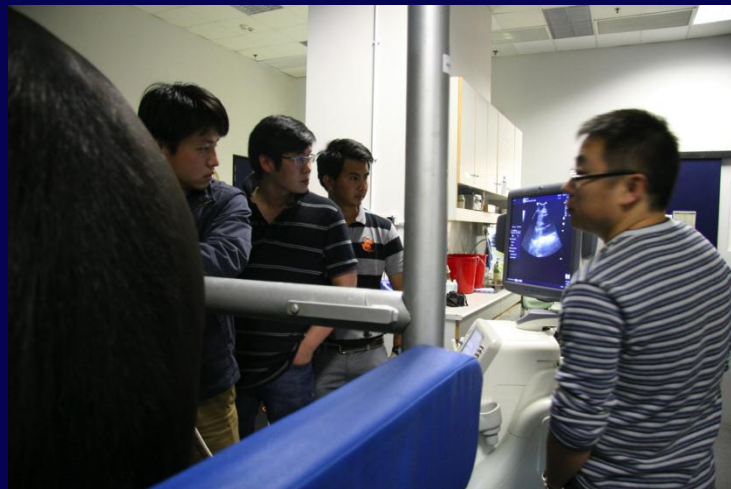
- Limited national equine disease database
- New national regulations restrict practical involvement of overseas veterinarians
- International interest – opportunism



Veterinary Care for the Racehorse

Range of current solutions

- Some excellent local vets
- Some good old-fashioned “practitioners”
- Foreign veterinarians work illegally





Veterinary Care for the Racehorse

Range of current solutions

- Make do with local pharmaceuticals
- Individual centres smuggle their own drugs from overseas
- Neglect



Veterinary Care for the Racehorse

Opportunities





Veterinary Care for the Racehorse

Opportunities



- Some young vets, dedicated to “doing the job” who are genuinely keen to learn and take things forward.
- Genuine interest from significant senior figures in Beijing.
- Increasing appreciation of animal welfare and need for veterinary services.
- Increasing need as industry grows.



Veterinary Care for the Racehorse

HKJC's Approach



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Veterinary Care for the Racehorse

HKJC's Approach

- Genuine wish to support:
 - Horse welfare
 - Equine industry
 - Development of relevant skills
- Commitment to find legitimate, legal solutions
- Willingness to openly share knowledge and skills



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Veterinary Care for the Racehorse

HKJC's Approach – *How?*



Veterinary Care for the Racehorse

HKJC's Approach – *How?*

1. Long-standing horse donation programme to selected stables
 - Retrained horses
 - Follow-up support and training





Veterinary Care for the Racehorse

HKJC's Approach – *How?*

1. Long-standing horse donation programme to selected stables
2. Technical support to equestrian events





Veterinary Care for the Racehorse

HKJC's Approach – *How?*

1. Long-standing horse donation programme to selected stables
2. Technical support to equestrian events
3. Support to professional training
 - Veterinarians
 - Farriers
 - Contribution to University programmes
 - Assistance with professional meetings
 - Work experience in Equine Hospital





Veterinary Care for the Racehorse

HKJC's Approach – *How?*

1. Long-standing horse donation programme to selected stables
2. Technical support to equestrian events
3. Support to professional training
4. Long-term commitment to Mainland Vets at Conghua Thoroughbred Training Centre (CTTC)
 - Training programmes



Veterinary Care for the Racehorse

HKJC's Approach – *How?*

1. Long-standing horse donation programme to selected stables
2. Technical support to equestrian events
3. Support to professional training
4. Long-term commitment to Mainland Vets at CTTC
5. Committed, long-term negotiations to agree:
 - i. Legal solutions for overseas vets to practice at CTTC
 - ii. Legal solutions to use unregistered drugs at CTTC
 - iii. Extensive investigation and discussions to ensure all laws related to vet operations complied with



Veterinary Care for the Racehorse

..in China

- Committed investment in development of veterinary services essential
- Capable, enthusiastic colleagues.....



Thank You !