

Deer Worm Study - Neurologic Exam SCORE CARD Video made? Y N

Owner _____ Person doing exam _____
Date _____ Animal ID _____ Species _____ Breed _____
Age _____ Sex _____ Production status _____
Treatment Assigned (A or B) _____ Dosages given _____

Keep out of the animal's mouth or wear gloves! Rabies is always possible.

Although the deer worm can get into the brain, it is almost impossible to diagnose this condition with certainty before death. Other neurologic diseases such as polioencephalomalacia, listeriosis, or pregnancy toxemia could be present instead and require other treatment. Therefore, if clear cut brain-related signs are present (i.e. reasons 1-6 below), do not enroll the animal in the deer worm study but instead contact your regular veterinarian for diagnosis and treatment of its condition.

Reasons for excluding an animal include:

- 1) severe mental depression
- 2) inability to eat or drink
- 3) blindness or failure to blink when a hand is waved in front of each eye
- 4) dropped jaw or drooling or tongue hanging out of the mouth
- 5) rapid up and down or sideways movement of an eyeball
- 6) circling in one direction
- 7) white conjunctiva (FAMACHA of 5) - severely anemic animals will be weak and wobbly
- 8) a problem such as toxic mastitis or metritis, pregnancy toxemia, or obvious pneumonia that would make the animal appear weak even though it did not have neurologic disease

Did the problem seem to begin as a lameness? Which leg? _____

Does the animal have a narrow skin lesion created by biting or scratching itself? If so, where is this lesion located? _____

Describe the spinal cord signs seen in this patient today.

1. Gait and strength: (videotape while the animal is moving around if possible)

- | | | |
|------------|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Hindlimbs: | 0 | No purposeful movement - paraplegia |
| | 1 | Unable to stand to support; slight movement when supported from under the pelvis - severe paraparesis |
| | 2 | Unable to stand to support; when assisted moves limbs readily but stumbles and falls frequently - moderate paraparesis and ataxia |
| | 3 | Can stand to support but frequently stumbles and falls - mild paraparesis and ataxia |
| | 4 | Can stand to support; minimal paraparesis and ataxia |
| | 5 | Normal strength and coordination |
| Forelimbs: | 0 | No purposeful movement |
| | 1 | Unable to stand to support; slight movement when supported from under the chest and abdomen |
| | 2 | Unable to stand to support; when assisted moves limbs readily but stumbles and falls frequently |
| | 3 | Can stand to support but frequently stumbles on front limbs and falls |
| | 4 | Can stand to support and dog sit; minimal weakness and ataxia in front |
| | 5 | Normal strength and coordination of front limbs |

2. Postural reactions:

Can the animal wheelbarrow on its front limbs when the abdomen is supported with the hind limbs off the ground? Yes Yes but weak No Too heavy

Can the animal hop sideways when held so that only 1 limb touches the ground?

LF _____ RF _____ LH _____ RH _____ Too heavy

Can it stand and walk or hop sideways when held so that only the front and back limb on the same side touch the ground?

Left side _____ Right side _____

Does the animal stand or walk with a foot knuckled over? Y N Which foot? _____

Does the animal fail to correct its foot position if you place the listed foot in a knuckled over position?

(Y/N)

LF _____ RF _____ LH _____ RH _____

3. Spinal Reflexes:

Muscle tone of each limb: 1=hypotonic - low muscle tone/loose or floppy, 2=normal tension, or 3=hypertonic - high muscle tone/tense or rigid

LF _____ RF _____ LH _____ RH _____

Patellar reflexes (the leg jerks when you tap the tendon on the front of the hind limb above the stifle joint): 0=absent, 1=reduced, 2=normal, 3=increased, 4=clonic or repeating

LH _____ RH _____

Is the foot withdrawn if the top of a toe is pinched with hemostats? (Y/N)

LF _____ RF _____ LH _____ RH _____

Does the animal show signs of awareness/pain when the toe is pinched? (Y/N)

LF _____ RF _____ LH _____ RH _____

Is a crossed extensor reflex present when the listed foot is stimulated (pinched between the toes) while the animal is lying on its side (opposite limb extends itself when the pinched foot pulls back)? (Y/N)

LF _____ RF _____ LH _____ RH _____

Is the neck twisted? Y N Describe _____

Is a head tilt present? Y N If so, to which side? _____

Is a perineal reflex present? (Does the anus contract when pinched?) Y N

Is the tail normal? Describe abnormalities _____

Additional spinal cord findings:

Cranial nerve deficits found:

4. Summary of neurologic exam, including changes since previous visit on the following date

Recovered _____ Improved _____ Unchanged _____ Worse _____

Extraneous interventions conducted by farmer (e.g. vitamin injections, slinging):

Dates Descriptions

A video showing an example of scoring animals is at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qNKqIMcjNfQ>

Contacts: Dr. Mary Smith mcs8@cornell.edu 607-253-3140
 tatiana Stanton tls7@cornell.edu 607-254-6024(wk)

29Oct2013