

Are there any benefits in taking part?

We would like to follow your horse's progress following hospital discharge and would be happy to provide assistance with questions about your horse's recovery in conjunction with the treating clinic if you are happy to consent to this.

What if I am unhappy or if there is a problem?

Please feel free to let us know by contacting Professor Debra Archer on 0151 794 6041 and we will try to help. If you remain unhappy or have a complaint which you feel you cannot come to us with then you should contact the Research Governance Officer on 0151 794 8290 (ethics@liv.ac.uk). When contacting the Research Governance Officer, please provide details of the name or description of the study (so that it can be identified), the researcher(s) involved, and the details of the complaint you wish to make.

What will happen to the results of the study?

The results of this study will be important in helping decide the best treatment for horses undergoing colic surgery in the future. Therefore, results will be presented at international meetings and will be published in peer-reviewed scientific journals. The results will also be reported in horse magazines and other horse owner groups and online forums. A summary of the results will be put onto the study website and will be sent out to owners who have provided us with their email addresses.

CLINIC CONTACT DETAILS:

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR NAME:

TELEPHONE:

EMAIL:

Study Chief investigator

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COLIC 2020: IMPROVING OUTCOMES

Owner information leaflet

Colic 2020 is a study being run in multiple equine veterinary clinics across the world that will enable us to provide horse owners, vets and horse surgeons with more information about how we can best help horses with colic to survive.



We need your consent to allow your horse, or the horse you are acting as an agent for on behalf of the owner, in order to help with this study. We would be grateful if you could take the time to read this information leaflet. Please feel free to ask clinic staff or the study investigators (see back page) if you have any questions.

INTERNATIONAL COLIC AUDIT

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Audits are performed routinely in people attending hospitals and are an important way of detecting important changes in diseases (e.g. increases in people with certain diseases) and identifying ways in which people can best be treated. In the same way, this study is using a group of equine hospitals based all over the world who are collaborating by collecting information about horses admitted to clinics for assessment and treatment of colic. This confidential, international study will investigate the ways in which horses with colic can be best treated to give them the greatest chance of surviving.

LIDOCAINE RANDOMISED CONTROLLED TRIAL

Lidocaine is a medication that is used in some horses during and immediately after colic surgery. Research has suggested that this drug might help the horse's intestine to regain normal movement following some types of colic surgery (e.g. where the small intestine has been damaged). However, no properly conducted studies have shown whether it does anything to change a horse's chances of survival following surgery. This study will investigate if lidocaine alters recovery of horse's intestines following surgery and if it has any benefit to their survival. For more information, we have some short video clips that you can look at on the trial's website page (please go to <https://www.colic-trials.org.uk>).

If your horse (*or the horse you are acting as an agent for on behalf of the owner) has undergone surgery to correct a problem involving the small intestine and is eligible for inclusion in this trial, you will be asked if you would be willing for them to be enrolled onto the trial. If consent is provided, your horse* will be randomly allocated to have lidocaine (treatment) or the control (saline) for 48- 72 hours following surgery. Clinic staff will not know which group your horse has been assigned to (blinded) to ensure that the trial is as rigorous as possible. **The costs of lidocaine or the control medication (saline) will be covered during the 48-72 hours following surgery by the study; the costs of initial examination, surgical treatment, antibiotics, painkillers and other care will be as standard for horses following surgery and will be charged as routine by the collaborating clinic before and after the trial.**

ANSWERS TO SOME IMPORTANT QUESTIONS:

Does my horse have to take part?

No, it is your choice. By collecting the information about as many horses as possible, we will be able to collect the data and report the results to horse owners and veterinary surgeons more quickly. This information will have significant benefits to horses with colic in the future.

Will my horse's participation be kept confidential?

Yes. Details about you and your horse will not be known by anyone other than your clinic team and the study investigators and will remain completely confidential.

What will happen if my horse takes part?

Your horse will be treated with the same level of care as with any horse presented to the clinic with colic. Both studies will collect information that is routinely recorded prior to, during and following colic surgery. Only standard clinical information and results of tests that would be routinely performed will be collected about horses for these studies.

For the lidocaine trial, you will be informed if your horse is suitable to be included once they have recovered following surgery and general anaesthesia. The clinic team would be very happy to answer any questions you may have at this time. If you are happy for them to be enrolled onto the trial they will receive lidocaine or the control medication for up to 48- 72 hours as deemed appropriate by the clinic team. Any horse included in the Lidocaine trial (CHARIOT) will be signed out of the food chain under the national passport scheme

Do I receive any expenses or payments?

The costs of treatment for your horse will be charged as per the usual pricing structure for horses with colic treated at the clinic. For horses enrolled onto the lidocaine trial, the costs of lidocaine or the control medication will be covered for up to 72 hours following surgery.

Are there any risks in taking part?

Lidocaine is commonly used in horses following colic surgery and it has been shown to be safe following use in multiple horses internationally. Its use may be beneficial in horses following small intestinal surgery without any short or long term effects. Lidocaine is not specifically authorised for use in the horse and side effects are rare—these include muscle tremors, incoordination and lying down. These side effects are usually very short-lived and resolve immediately after lidocaine treatment is stopped.