

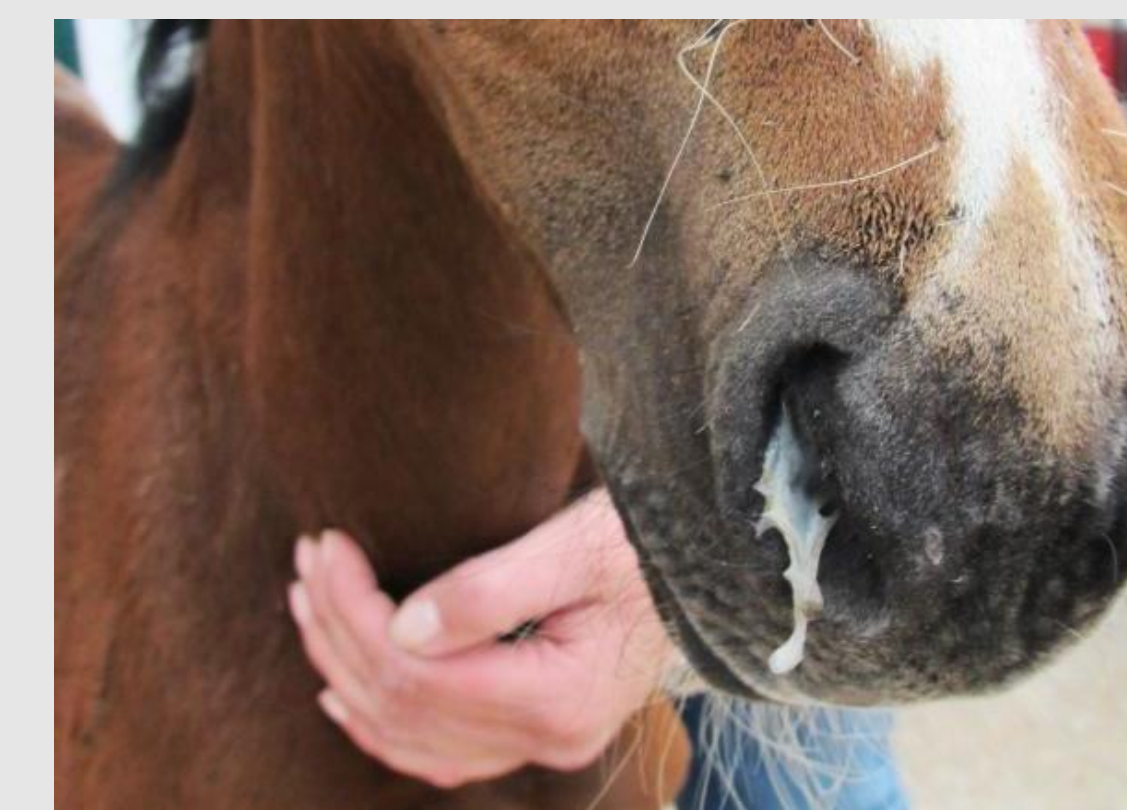
# BACTERIAL CULTURE OF TRACHEAL ASPIRATE OR LUNG TISSUE OF 76 FOALS PRESENTED WITH CLINICAL SIGNS OF PNEUMONIA

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## INTRODUCTION

- Most common bacterial isolates in foals with pneumonia :
  - Streptococcus equi subsp. zooepidemicus (Strep-zoo)
  - Rhodococcus equi (R. equi)
- Little is reported about their relative frequency of occurrence.
- Aim of this retrospective study : report the results of bacterial culture of tracheobronchial aspirate or lung tissue (necropsy) of foals presented with clinical signs of pneumonia.



## METHODS

- Bacterial cultures obtained from foals aged between 0 and 365 days presented between January 2009 and December 2018 with clinical signs of pneumonia including depression, fever, cough, nasal discharge and dyspnea at our referral hospital were reviewed.



Strep-zoo



R. equi

## RESULTS

- In total, 76 foals met the inclusion criteria.
- Strep-zoo (35.5%) and R. equi (24.4%) showed the highest prevalence.
- Other isolates included : Actinobacillus spp. (n=5), Pseudomonas spp. (n= 3), E. Coli (n= 2), Klebsiella spp. (n= 1 ), Bordetella spp. (n= 1), Staphylococcus spp. (n= 1), Strep. equi subsp. equi (n=1).
- 2 samples were positive for both pathogens and 7 samples were negative.
- Comparison of Strep-zoo and R. equi is as follows :

	Strep-zoo	R. equi
Mean age (days)	129	59
Survival to discharge	81.5 %	64.7 %
Lung abscesses on ultrasound	37 %	76 %

## CONCLUSION

- Highest prevalence of Strep-zoo in our population
- Higher survival to discharge for Strep-zoo
- Age of the foal and presence of abscesses on ultrasound might be suggestive for the causative pathogen
- Proper diagnosis is essential to avoid unnecessary use of critical antibiotics and to better define prognosis