

# Current Veterinary Clinical Trials

## **BILATERAL CORNEAL STROMAL LOSS IN FRIESIAN HORSES**

### ■ **Background**

- Bilateral corneal stromal loss (BCSL) is a potentially progressive ocular disease that can be associated with pain, vision loss and even loss of the eye. The objective of this study is to determine the role genetics plays in BCSL in Friesian horses. This study is designed to determine the incidence of BCSL in the breed, to determine the mode of inheritance if a single gene is involved, and identify candidate genes for further investigation.

### ■ **Participation Requirements**

- Friesian horses with and without a diagnosis of bilateral corneal stromal loss (BCSL)

### ■ **Procedures**

- Examination of the horse's eyes by a veterinary ophthalmologist
- Photography of the horse to document coat color and any abnormalities found in the eyes
- Collection of hair samples from the horse's mane to examine DNA
- Discussion of the horse's medical history

### ■ **Owner Responsibilities**

- Bringing the horse to the VMTH for initial assessment
- Covering any costs associated with injuries while participating in this trial and follow-up of the horse at the VMTH for assessment if needed

### ■ **Benefits**

- All costs associated with the study will be paid by the sponsor/department. However, if a presumptive diagnosis of BCSL is made for the horse, any further diagnostics or therapy associated with the diagnosis of BCSL will be the owner's responsibility. Copies of any biopsy reports from horses that have been affected with BCSL may be requested.
- Results from this study will hopefully lower the incidence of this ocular disease in Friesians and other affected breeds, and help breeders make informed mating decisions.
- We also hope this study will lead to better prediction of the risk of developing disease for earlier diagnosis and treatment.

### **PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS**

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### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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