



MICHAEL ASSESSMENT
OF PAIN & SOUNDNESS

Exclusively in association with



Many horses suffer from joint pain and degenerative conditions of the joints including the back. It is important to accurately determine a method of measuring the pain or stiffness in order to establish an outcome and quality of life.

In humans there are several methods used to gain information on progress of dysfunction and disease and outcome of drug therapy, (NSAID's) and complementary treatments such as acupuncture and natural medicines. One of the methods used is the womac system which has been in used since 1982 and has been cited and tested for accuracy many times in scientific literature.

In horses there is a different and relatively basic system in place called the International lameness score, marks are given for movement in hand in walk and trot. The marks are graded from 1-5 with 1 being the least lame and 5 being extremely fracture lame and described as follows:

Grade 1. This lameness is most typical in chronic, non progressive diseases. Grade one consists of marks between one and two depending on how severe the condition is believed to be, the higher number always representing the more extreme.

Grade two. The lameness is barely perceptible in the walk, and very apparent at the trot. Head movements, although not often visible at the walk, become obvious at the trot, with some head and neck lifting as the lame foot hits the ground. This is an attempt to reduce the weight bearing on the affected limb.

Grade three. The lameness is apparent at both the walk and trot. Head and neck lifting are obvious with the forelimb lameness and with a hind limb lameness, head nodding is apparent when the opposite forelimb hits the ground.

Grade four. With this degree of lameness, the horse will not place the foot completely flat during weight bearing. They will be reluctant to jog. Grade four consists of scores from seven to eight.

Grade five. This is a nonweight-bearing lameness. This is often associated with fractures, subsolar abscesses, severe tendonitis, and septic arthritis.

This method of grading lameness is an adequate way of monitoring lameness conditions by the veterinary but falls far short of providing all round information concerning the physical and emotional comfort that horses need and their owners would like to provide.

Dr Carol Michael has devised an in depth questionnaire to gain insight into how pain and stiffness affects the day to day routine of the horse including temperament. The questions are based on a lifetime of experience of monitoring and relieving pain in horses. The questions called Michael Assessment of Pain and Stiffness (MAPS) are formatted to produce relevant statistics and data that can be used to draw meaningful conclusions when used across a large portion of the affected horse population.

Affected horses

Any horse prescribed long term (longer than a month) doses of Bute or a natural alternative for degenerative, arthritic conditions of any joint including the back and feet. Any horses affected by joint and muscle stiffness that affects ridden performance or temperament. Any horse given joint supplements to improve flexibility and performance not given as a preventative.

Not included in the present study are horses affected with laminitis and Cushing's though definitely a possibility for another similar trial

**All questions to be answered on a once per month basis
for six month period**



Name of horse

Using Pain Relief? General Bute-based

Owners Contact Details

Name

Address

Tel

E-mail

Page One- General information About Your Horse

Age

Breed

Height

Estimate of weight

General Use

SJ

Dressage

X country

Eventing

Hunting

Racing

Combination

Hacking

Other

Brief history of lameness, include details of medication.

Brief History of Health



1

2

3

4

5

Please tick to rate from 1 (normal) to 5 (extreme)

Part four -Temperament

Please tick box to confirm any of the following characteristics

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quiet
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Anxious
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ears back more often
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Difficult to catch
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Biting teeth grinding
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nose wrinkling
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Napping
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rearing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bucking
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kicking lashing out at other horses or people
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Depressed (stands with head down ears back maybe with hindquarters resting on the wall or manger)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Relaxed contented

Part Five -Social

Please tick box to confirm any of the following characteristics

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Responsive to handle
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Walks over to be caught in the field
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Easy and willing to box
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Travels well, calm and relaxed
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Responsive to ride
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Easy to tie up
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Accepts other horses
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Interested in life
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	cribs bites chews wood in stable
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	enjoys grooming from other horses and/or from handler



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Part Six -Condition and Health

1 Coat - tick the appropriate box

- Shiny (good shine, dappled)
- Dull (horses has looked better condition could be improved on)
- Staring (coat looks rough, long hairs standing up and away from coat)

2 Droppings

- Normal
- Loose
- Hard

3 Skin

- Good
- Spots
- Allergy
- Ringworm

4 Appetite

- Good
- Adequate tends to leave some food as normal behaviour
- Poor appetite left hay ration 1-3 days.
- More than 3 days

Please post to:

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IP31 3SG

or scan and email to info@hackup.co.uk