



7 January 2015

Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation commissions important collection of scientific reviews

The Equine Veterinary Journal (EVJ) has recently published a collection of six reviews commissioned in partnership with The Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation (GJCRF). The papers cover a carefully considered mix of topics reflecting some of the GJCRF's priority areas for research funding. Fast-evolving contemporary research such as regenerative medicine and genetics are explored, subjects in need of authoritative review, such as stallion fertility and the development of equine immunity, are discussed and areas that present constant challenge such as biosecurity, infection and pain control are reconsidered.

The GJCRF is an American, non-profit charitable organisation and one of the leading sources of funding of equine research in the world. Established 75 years ago to fund research that can help horses, and promote their welfare and safety, the GJCRF supports projects in both the USA and other countries. It has provided more than \$20,000,000 in the last three decades to fund more than 300 projects at 41 universities and also provides annual Career Development Awards young equine scientists.

Of the six new reviews, two key contemporary research papers cover current progress in the field of equine genomics¹ and the current state and potential future of stem cells in equine regenerative medicine². Updates are provided on the male contribution to fertilisation³ and on the development of equine immunity and immunology in the young horse⁴. The final two papers examine the consistently timely topics of approaches to pain control⁵ and infection prevention, control and biosecurity⁶.

Professor Paul Lunn, who provided the introduction to the series of reviews, said: "Many of today's challenges to the equine population need to be addressed by answering scientific questions and applying new knowledge. Research can provide answers to many of these questions if researchers receive support from organisations such as GJCRF. We are grateful to the authors for helping to establish the critical knowledge gaps that research must close in the future and to the research foundations and donors that continue make our work possible."

Professor Celia Marr, Editor of the Equine Veterinary Journal continued: "The EVJ is proud to collaborate with the GJCRF to bring you these important reviews. The diverse topics are relevant to numerous sectors of the equine industry, reiterating the immense contribution that racing-related organisations such as GJCRF continue to make to equine research."

The six scientific reviews are free online at <http://bit.ly/17iygic>

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References

¹ *Applied equine genetics* C. J. Finno and D. L. Bannasch

² *State of the art: Stem cells in equine regenerative medicine* M. J. Lopez* and J. Jarazo

³ *Stallion fertility: A focus on the spermatozoon* D. D. Varner¹, Z. Gibb and R. J. Aitken

⁴ *The Development of Equine Immunity: current knowledge on immunology in the young horse* Gillian A. Perkins and Bettina Wagner

⁵ *Pain control in horses: What do we really know?* L. C. Sanchez, and S. A. Robertson

⁶ *Infection control and biosecurity in equine disease control* J. S. Weese

Notes to editors

- Image attached
- The GJCRF collection can be accessed at: <http://bit.ly/17iygic>
- EVJ is an unrivalled international equine veterinary science journal owned by the British Equine Veterinary Association and is published by Wiley-Blackwell. The journal strives to publish clinically orientated research and was first published in 1968. It now appears bi-monthly with around 128 pages per issue.
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