



Improving your field anaesthesia

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In this lecture, the indications for field anaesthesia will be discussed. Protocols for short and medium duration anaesthetic procedures will be discussed, with focus on anaesthetic drugs that have been known for several years in clinic already, like alpha2-agonists and ketamine. Furthermore, newer anaesthetic drugs like alfaxalone and the possibilities for the use of triple drip formulations with benzodiazepines instead of guaiphenesine will be discussed as well. For anaesthesia of animals that cannot be taken into hand, the use of tele-immobilization techniques will be discussed, with the possible tools to provide drug administration (like blowpipe and CO₂ rifle) and with the specific anaesthetic drugs that can be used with these techniques. Together with the anaesthetic protocols, emphasis will be put on patient handling, safety and guided inductions and recoveries from anaesthesia to improve patient and veterinarian safety. Furthermore, patient monitoring and cardiorespiratory support will be discussed as well.

References:

- Staffieri, F., Driessen, B. (2007) Field anesthesia in the Equine. *Clinical techniques in equine practice*, 6, 111-119.
- Deutsch, J., Ekiri, A., de Vries, A. (2017) Alfaxalone for maintenance of anaesthesia in ponies undergoing field castration: continuous infusion compared with intravenous boluses. *Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia*, 44, 832-840.