



Neurological Examination

LEVE 7 European and RCVS Specialist in Veterinary Neurology

Patient Details		Date			
Presenting Problem					
Mental status -	alert	interactive	obtunded	comatose	
Posture -	normal	paraparesis / plegia		tetraparesis	
	hemiparesis / plegia (right / left)			head tilt (right / left)	
Tremor -	none	intention	action	resting	muscular(type)
Gait -	normal	ataxia (thoracic / pelvic limbs)		dysmetria	
	hypermetria (thoracic / pelvic limbs)		hypometria (thoracic / pelvic limbs)		
	lameness (right / left thoracic		right / left pelvic)		
	circling (right / left/ compulsive wandering)			Jumping ability (cat)	
	Inability to negotiate obstacles.				

Cranial Nerves		Postural Reactions	
Left	Right	Left	Right
Vision (II, cerebrum)		Hopping Thoracic limbs	
Menace Response (II, cerebrum, cerebellum, brainstem, VII)		Pelvic limbs	
Pupil size (II, III, sympathetic)		Paw position Thoracic limbs	
Pupillary Light Reflex (II, brainstem, III) Stimulate right eye Stimulate left eye		Pelvic limbs	
Strabismus (III, IV, VI)		Tactile placing Thoracic limbs	
Spontaneous nystagmus (III, IV, VI, VIII) Positional nystagmus (III, IV, VI, VIII)		Pelvic limbs	
Oculovestibular reflex (III, IV, VI, VIII, brainstem)		Visual placing Thoracic limbs	
Facial sensation (V) and movement (VII) Jaw tone (V)		Pelvic limbs	
Temporal Muscle Mass (V)		Hemistanding	
Corneal reflex (V, VI, VII)		Hemiwalking	
Palpebral reflex (V, VII)		Wheelbarrowing	
Facial symmetry (VII)		Extensor postural thrust	
Hearing (VIII)		Muscle palpation	
Swallowing (IX, X)		Tone	
Tongue (XII)		Atrophy	

Spinal reflexes	
Left	Right
Biceps (C6-C8, musculocutaneous)	
Extensor carpi radialis (C7-T1, radial)	
Triceps (C7-T1, radial)	
Withdrawal (C6 -T2, multiple)	
Patellar (L4-L6, femoral)	
Cranial tibial (L6-L7, peroneal)	
Gastrocnemius (L6-S1, sciatic)	
Withdrawal (L6 - S1, sciatic)	
Perineal (S1 - S2, perineal)	
Panniculus (cutaneous trunci) reflex Dermatome cut off	

Left	Right
Deep pain perception	

Left	Right
thoracic limb	
pelvic limb	
tail	

Pain	

Urinary Function	
Voluntary urination	Overflow
Bladder size	Bladder tone
Ease of manual expression	

Key: 0 absent +1 reduced +2 normal
 +3 increased +4 clonus
NP – test not performed

Lesion localisation	
Brain	Side
Cerebral cortex Frontal lobe Parietal lobe Occipital lobe Temporal lobe	
Diencephalon Basal nuclei Thalamus Hypothalamus	
Cerebellum	
Brainstem Midbrain Pons Medulla	
Vestibular syndrome	Side
Central (brainstem) Central (cerebellum) Peripheral	
Spinal cord	Side
C1-C5 C6-T2 T3-L3 L4-L5 L6 -S3	
Neuropathy	Nerves
cranial - local cranial - generalised peripheral - local Peripheral - generalised	
Neuromuscular	
Muscular	Muscle
local generalised	
Multifocal	

Normal

