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- Director at Mayes and Scrine Equine Veterinary Practice
- 5 vet RCVS PSS Tier 2 Equine Practice, joined Colin Bond in 1994, partnership in 2003, now M&S EVP Ltd
- BEVA Council member since 2007, Immediate Past President: welfare, REA and livery yard inspection, Safer Horse Rescue, insurance, new grad liaison



Mayes & Scrine
EQUINE VETERINARY PRACTICE

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Pre-Purchase Examination: “Vettings”

- Pre-purchase examination is an important aspect of equine veterinary work throughout Europe.
- It is also one of the procedures that is most likely to be carried out for a client in another country or performed in another country to where the veterinary surgeon normally practices.
- UK Veterinary Defence Society (indemnity insurers) say the PPE is the dominant procedure in the UK that results in complaints or legal action.



Differences can lead to problems



- There are significant differences in how these examinations are performed and reported across Europe.
- Some countries are doing things which others could learn from and some countries have problems with horses that are vetted abroad.
- For example, in the UK we have some interesting new developments such as electronic PPE certificates and a unified approach with another country (Republic of Ireland).
- We also perceive that there are problems with horses being vetting in other European Countries for UK purchasers.
- A good example of this is that in the UK, the purchase of horses is often governed by what can be insured. Horses can "pass" a vetting in another European state only for the UK purchaser to find that their insurance company have placed exclusions on parts of the horse based on X-ray findings. This can cause a great deal of dissatisfaction.

Not registered in the UK?



- There are some significant potential problems with veterinary surgeons carrying out pre-purchase examinations in another country.
- If they are not registered to practice as a vet in that country, have no professional indemnity insurance or public liability insurance they may well be putting themselves at risk of significant potential problems.
- This is certainly the case with vets from other states carrying out PPEs in the UK

AIM: To understand what is happening throughout Europe

- We can learn from the experiences of other countries and/or understand problems which might be specific to them.
- We can focus on the issues of veterinarians carrying out PPEs in countries in which they are not registered, with an aim to make it easier for veterinarians to legally carry out PPEs in other European states.
- We can look at whether there are some aspects of PPE that can be unified across member states.



FEEVA Survey?



- Do veterinarians see problems with this happening at the moment?
- Are we just ignoring the legalities?
- Are all delegates in favour of this happening?
- If so, what can we do focus particularly on the issue of veterinarians travelling to other states to carry out PPEs. to facilitate it?
- Managed and administered by BEVA

Survey to cover:



1. What does the examination include:

- Are there different types of PPE?
- Are flexion tests or trotting in a tight circle included or mandatory?
- Are the eyes examined, and how is it done?
is this horse exercised? Is it usually ridden or lunged.
- How long does it take?
- Who can carry out a PPE?
- Is there a specific panel of recognised veterinarians?
- What radiographs or other additional procedures are usually carried out?
- Who can interpret them? Only a recognised panel?
- Do you have problems with radiographs sent to, or received from other countries?

Survey Content



2. Regulation

- Who governs what happens as part of a PPE in your country
- Is it very standardised, and is there a set format
- Is it an act of veterinary surgery for which the person carrying it out must be registered as veterinary surgeon?

3. Professional indemnity insurance

- Do you have to pay more to carry out vettings or high-value vettings?
- Are PPEs an area of particular concern to your insurers?
- Do your insurers regulate how you can perform and report a PPE?
- Are you covered to carry out PPEs in another country?

Survey Content



4. Reporting and certification

How is it reported. Verbally, written, email etc?

Do you give an opinion, a record of findings or just a tick box form?

5. Who do you act for?

Do you act for the purchaser, the seller, both or neither?

6. Payment

Is there a set fee? Does it vary depending on the price of the horse?

Who pays you?

7. Cross-border vettings

Do you see problems with purchasers in your country having vettings done abroad?

Do veterinarians in your country regularly travel to other European states to carry out PPEs?



8. Horse insurance

- Are horses commonly insured in your country for mortality, vets fees and loss of use?
- Do the insurance companies require the purchaser to show them a PPE certificate?
- Do you have problems with this aspect?
- Do the insurance companies specify which radiographic views or any other specific conditions?

Some of the ideas for the
survey....

OTHERS?





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Thank you



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