

# ADMISSION FOR COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY / CT SCAN

Please refer to general admission information if you are bringing your horse in for any procedure at Rainbow Equine Hospital.

For many procedures performed at the hospital, your horse will need to be sedated. If you know of any reason why your horse should not be sedated, then please inform us upon your arrival so that precautions can be taken. For all computed tomographic examinations, an intravenous catheter is placed in a vein in the neck.

Due to the large amount of information collected using an imaging modality such as CT, you should expect to receive results on the next working day, occasionally it may be possible to give results on the evening following imaging however we would routinely work to a 24-hour reporting period.

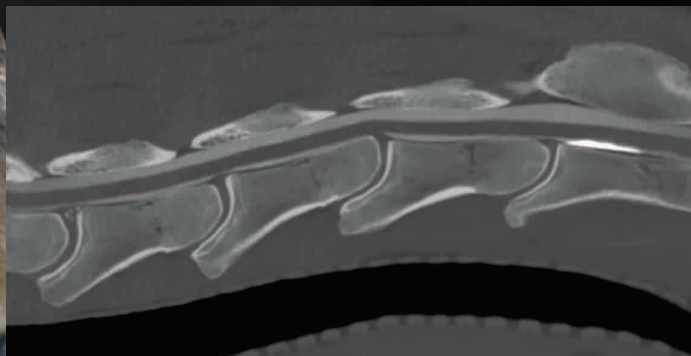
## Computed Tomography (CT)

Computed tomography is the acquisition of many x-ray images, taken at very high speed by a gantry which rotates around the patient.

CT scans can be used in the standing horse to acquire images of the head and the cranial part of the neck, or in the anesthetized horse to acquire images of the entire neck (including a myelogram) or the lower limbs; up to and including the tarsus (hock) and carpus (knee). Images are obtained through the region of interest in a way similar to slices through a loaf of bread, however the data can be put back together in 3D enabling us to slice the image in any plane we wish to best evaluate the region.

For horses in the hospital for CT, please expect your horse to be with us for the entire day. Frequently the scans will be completed within 2-3 hours, however to allow for review of images, and repeat scans if required, this may take longer. We will inform you as soon as we have finished with the horse, and at this time if any further treatment is required the horse may stay in the hospital.

Once the scan is completed, between 300-2000 images per region are acquired, the effects of sedation have worn off, and treatment completed, your horse will be discharged from the hospital and a full written report will follow. Please ensure we have email contact details for you on the consent form in order to get this to you as quickly as possible. If you have not heard from us within 48 hours, then please contact us on 01653 695743 to be directed to the senior clinician in charge of the case who will update you on the findings.



Computed tomography has significant advantages over conventional x-ray, in particular relating to the assessment of head and limb fractures, dental and sinus anatomy, and imaging the important diseases in the head and neck.

