

Advanced Equine Endocrinology
Live Virtual Course | Date: October 5-6, 2026

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DAY 1: Monday, October 5, 2026

Time (Mountain Time)	Topic	Presenter(s)
8:00 -- 8:15 am	Welcome and Introductions	<i>Dr. François-René Bertin</i>
8:15 -- 9:15 am	Equine Endocrine Physiology - Understand the unique functions of the equine hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal and thyroid axes, calcium and phosphorus homeostasis, and the regulation of energy and metabolism in horses and foals. - Recognize the complexity of hormonal interactions in health and the challenges in interpreting hormone concentrations in horses.	<i>Dr. Katarzyna Dembek</i>
9:15 -- 10:15 am	Endocrinology in Inflammation - Understand how the immune and endocrine systems are activated and interact during critical illness and systemic inflammation. - Understand the clinical consequences, diagnosis, and management of endocrine dysfunction during critical illness in horses - Understand what is currently understood about immune function in PPID and EMS/insulin dysregulation.	<i>Dr. Kelsey Hart</i>
10:15 -- 10:30 am	Break	
10:30 -- 11:30 am	Endocrinology in Foals - Understand the specific roles of the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis, adrenal steroids, and neurosteroids, and how energy and metabolism are regulated in neonatal foals. - Recognize the complexity of hormonal interactions in health and critical illness in foals. - Understand current diagnostic and therapeutic approaches for common endocrinopathies in critically ill foals.	<i>Dr. Kelsey Hart</i> <i>Dr. Katarzyna Dembek</i>

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11:30 -- 12:30 pm	Endocrine Disorders and Reproduction - Endocrine diseases such as pituitary pars intermedia dysfunction and equine metabolic syndrome are common in the equine population, especially as horses age. - Endocrine diseases have diverse effects on equine reproductive performance, including altered estrous cycles, ovulation failure, decreased fertility, and changes to lactation. - Diagnosis and management strategies remain paramount for managing endocrinopathies to advocate for future reproductive success.	<i>Dr. Theresa Beachler</i>
12:30 -- 1:30 pm	Lunch	
1:30 -- 2:30 pm	Calcium and Phosphorus in Horses - Discuss equine calcium and phosphorus physiology, including factors involved in their regulation. - Discuss disorders of calcium and phosphorus regulation in horses, including their pathophysiology. - List diagnostics and treatments for equine calcium and phosphorus disorders.	<i>Dr. Ramiro Toribio</i>
2:30 -- 3:30 pm	Lipid Metabolism - Summarize the physiological pathways of lipid metabolism and the mechanisms by which lipids are utilized as an energy source. - Describe the process of lipid storage within adipose tissue and the factors that influence mobilization. - Explain the role of adipose tissue as an active endocrine organ, including the secretion of adipokines and their systemic effects. - Understand the pathophysiologic mechanism and dysregulation of lipid metabolism leading to hyperlipemia. - Analyze the relationship between lipid dysregulation, obesity, and insulin dysregulation in equine metabolic syndrome.	<i>Dr. Laura Dunbar Hostnick</i>

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DAY 1 (cont.) Monday, October 5, 2026		
Time (Mountain Time)	Topic	Presenter(s)
3:30 -- 3:45 pm	Break	
3:45 -- 4:45 pm	Thyroid Function and Dysfunction • Present the main thyroid disorders in adult horses. • Recognise the clinical features of thyroid disorders in foals. • Describe the role of thyroid hormone supplementation in horses.	<i>Dr. François-René Bertin</i>
4:45 -- 5:45 pm	Panel Discussion • Discuss equine endocrinology physiology, inflammation, and disorders. • Discuss endocrine topics in foals. • Explore calcium and phosphorous and lipid metabolism in horses. • Discuss thyroid function and dysfunction.	<i>Dr. Kelsey Hart</i> <i>Dr. Katarzyna Dembek</i> <i>Dr. Theresa Beachler</i> <i>Dr. Ramiro Toribio</i> <i>Dr. Laura Dunbar Hostnick</i> <i>Dr. François-René Bertin</i> <i>Moderator: Dr. Erin Beasley</i>
5:45 pm	Close Day 1	<i>Dr. François-René Bertin</i>

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DAY 2 Tuesday, October 6, 2026		
Time (Mountain Time)	Topic	Presenter(s)
8:00 – 9:00 am	PPID: Management Beyond Prascend - Understand current pharmacologic options for pituitary pars intermedia dysfunction. - Implement non-pharmaceutical management strategies in geriatric horses. - Adjust management of pituitary pars intermedia dysfunction to the response to therapy.	<i>Dr. François-René Bertin</i>
9:00 – 10:00 am	EMS: SGLT2i and Long-Term Management - Apply evidence-based dietary and exercise strategies. - Recognize emerging pharmaceutical therapies for insulin dysregulation in equine metabolic syndrome. - Adjust management of equine metabolic syndrome to the response to therapy.	<i>Dr. François-René Bertin</i>
10:00 – 10:15 am	Break	
10:15 – 11:15 am	Nutrition of the Horse with PPID - PPID includes equids with a wide range of severity of clinical signs, body condition scores, insulin status and exercise levels. Diet should be tailored to the individual rather than using a generic diet for this condition. - Insulin dysregulation is common in PPID and must be considered in the dietary plan. - Dental disease is common in equids with PPID and should be considered in diet formulation. Forage replacers may be useful in affected cases.	<i>Dr. Edd Knowles</i>

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DAY 2 (cont.)
Tuesday, October 6, 2026

Time (Mountain Time)	Topic	Presenter(s)
11:15 – 12:15 pm	Nutrition of the EMS horse (Obese and Lean) - Insulin responses to dietary stimulus vary considerably amongst EMS cases and exacerbated responses may be seen to meals as low as 0.1g/kg bwt NSC. Individual monitoring is important. - Long-term feeding of soaked hay alone risks dietary deficiencies. Protein, vitamin and mineral needs must be considered. - Dietary control alone may be difficult or may not result in a sufficiently fast response in some cases. Medical treatment can be used as an adjunct (rather than alternative) to dietary control.	<i>Dr. Edd Knowles</i>
12:15 – 1:15 pm	Lunch	
1:15 – 2:15 pm	Hyperinsulinaemia-associated Laminitis - Understand how insulin damages the lamellae. - Make a diagnosis of acute or subtle, subclinical hyperinsulinemia-associated laminitis from plain digital radiographs. - Formulate strategies for prevention and treatment of hyperinsulinemia-associated laminitis.	<i>Dr. Andrew van Eps</i>
2:15 – 3:15 pm	Metabolic Disorders of Donkeys - Describe known physiology differences between donkeys and horses. - Review published research relating to donkey metabolic diseases. - Discuss management techniques for donkeys with metabolic disorders.	<i>Dr. Emily Berryhill</i>
3:15-3:30 pm	Break	
3:30 – 5:15 pm	Bring Your Cases Panel Discussion - Explore and investigate current cases. - Apply topics to example case-studies.	<i>Dr. François-René Bertin,</i> <i>Dr. Andrew van Eps</i> <i>Dr. Emily Berryhill</i> <i>Moderator: Dr. Kath Mitchell</i>
5: 15 pm	Closing Remarks	