

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

On Friday 23rd August 2024 at approximately 15h00 Inspector Mark Syce presented me with a young, emaciated mare who had been confiscated earlier in the day.

Animal Details:

SPCA admission number: A37370

Species: Equine Breed: Hackney?

Sex: Mare

Colour: Bay Roan

Age: 7 years

Microchip Number: None Name: Mona

Weight: 366 kg Height: 14.3 hands

Description: Whorl above eye level in small star. Plain Bay Roan

Clinical Examination:

Mona was starving when she was presented to me, she barely allowed me to examine her as she was food guarding. She was clinically healthy. Temperature 38.1, pulse 42 and respiration 20. Her colour was normal, and her teeth were moderately sharp. No obvious ulceration and she was able to eat and chew well. She had a body score of 1, but was very hairy, so this did cover her ribs significantly. It was obvious over her hip bones to see she had no body fat. Please see images below.



Marked poverty lines



Prominent hip bones



Prominent spine and prominent hip bones



Close up of the hip bone, no fat present.



Head is large for the body: She seems stunted from chronic starvation.

Although she was absolutely starving and aggressively guarding her food bowl, she was still extremely gently in taking food from us. Her feet had also been shod in front so she could be used to pull a cart.

Blood samples were taken to ascertain if there was any underlying cause for the dramatic weight loss. The blood samples indicated a chronic worm burden, but other than that, the horse was clinically normal. Please see results attached.

Requisition No: 650983474	Animal (File No: NOT SUPPLIED)	Guarantor:
Specimen No: 0823:HA04699U	EQUINE MONA EQUINE	CAPE VETERINARY EQUINE
Collection Date: 2024-08-23 15:00	Reference No: 24:650983474	Med Aid: CLIENTS
Received Date: 2024-08-23 20:40	Species: Sex: EQUINE: M	Member No: NOT AVAILABLE
Reported Date: 2024-08-24 11:35	Contact No: 0217122290	Contact No: N/A
Clinical Data: BREED: NOT SUPPLIED AGE: NOT SUPPLIED WEIGHT LOSS		
Tests requested: Query - Tests; Resolved - Tests; FULL BLOOD COUNT & PLT; TOTAL PROT & ALBUMIN-S VET; VET - SERUM AMYLOID A; VET CHECK TEST		
Referral ICD10 code(s): Z76.9		

Haematology			
Test Name	Result	Flag	Reference Range
RED CELLS			
Red cell count	6.23	L	7.0 - 13.0 x10E12/L
Haemoglobin	10.9		10.0 - 18.0 g/dL
Haematocrit	0.32		0.32 - 0.55 L/L
MCV	51		37 - 53 fl
MCH	18	H	14 - 16 pg
MCHC	34		32 - 44 g/dL
RDW	20.2	*H	10 - 15 %
WHITE CELLS			
White cell count	6.7		5.4 - 14.3 x10E9/L
Neutrophils %	52.9		%
Lymphocytes %	33.4		%
Monocytes %	4.7		%
Eosinophils %	8.4		%
Basophils %	0.5		%
Neutrophils ABS	3.52		3.50 - 7.10 x10E9/L
Lymphocytes ABS	2.24		1.80 - 3.60 x10E9/L
Monocytes ABS	0.31		0.00 - 0.72 x10E9/L
Eosinophils ABS	0.56	H	0.00 - 0.48 x10E9/L
Basophils ABS	0.03		x10E9/L
PLATELETS			
Platelet count	210		200 - 600 x10E9/L
BLOOD FILM MORPHOLOGY			
-			
Acanthocytes 1+ Echinocytes 1+ Some lymphocytes with stimulated / activated appearance Platelet clumps 2+ i.e. true platelet count is higher than the measured value.			

In my opinion there is no excuse for the condition of this animal. She has been denied food deliberately and negligently and has been allowed to become infested with parasites and denied basic treatment of them. This has caused unnecessary suffering on a long-term basis to the degree that it has impacted her behaviour in response to food. She has lost so much condition; she has no protection from the cold or the weather, either in body weight or in shelter, and has had grown an abnormally long coat in response to try and protect herself.

The changes in her body represent years of negligence and unnecessary poor conditions.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any further questions.

Kind Regards,



Dr Kate Meiring

0823238703