A response regarding “The use of computed tomography in the diagnosis of pelvic fractures involving the acetabulum in two fillies”

Dear Sir,

With interest we read Prof. Wiwanitkit’s remarks in his Letter to the Editor. In fact it is true that streak artifacts, which are created by beam hardening through hardware (implants), can be problematic in human and in veterinary medicine. This however is not the case in horses and fillies as there is almost no instance that implants, such as total hip prosthesis or bone plates, are located in this region of this species. Postoperatively, the situation is also the same. Here computed tomography helps us in deciding about the prognosis, but it is not used for surgical planning. Therefore, the importance of this is purely academic in equine imaging as compared to companion animals and humans. With companion animals and humans, it is true that we fight sometimes with this artifact (e.g. dogs with total hip prosthesis, postoperative fracture reduction, etc.). I think a statement in this equine article is unimportant and therefore we would like to leave it as it is. I hope Prof. Wiwanitkit can agree with our opinion.

With our best regards,

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Marc Trump, med. vet.
Anton Fürst, Prof. Dr. med. vet., dipl. ECVS

References