

Conference on
“Non-invasive Monitoring of Hormones”
(3rd annual ISWE meeting)
Vienna, September 2012

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Submission for **oral** or **poster** contributions to the scientific program is now open. Please observe the following guidelines for preparing and submitting your abstract.

1. **Oral presentations** will be limited to 10 minutes with 3 additional minutes for questions. Computer equipped with Windows (XP or 7), MS Office (XP or 2010) system will be provided. Presenting authors will have the possibility to check presentations in a separate room. PowerPoint files should be transferred to the conference computer half a day before the presentation.
Please announce if you need a slide projector for your presentation.
2. All **posters** (maximal dimensions: 100x140cm portrait format) will be exposed for the duration of the conference. Monday evening will be dedicated to a poster session. Posters should also include a picture of the presenting author to facilitate finding the person to talk to concerning additional information on the poster during the conference.
3. All accepted abstracts will be published in the conference proceedings as a supplement of the journal “Wiener Tierärztliche Monatsschrift/Veterinary Medicine Austria” (indexed in ISI-Web of Science). Furthermore, selected talks will be published in 2013 as papers in a special issue of the same journal.
4. Only one abstract per lead author may be submitted, but there is no limit on the number of abstracts submitted as co-author (non-presenting author). The presenting author **must** register for the Conference by the end of August, 2012; otherwise the abstract will not appear in the proceedings.
5. Submitted abstracts (in English only) should include **Title, Authors and Affiliations including the e-mail address of the presenting author**. They must contain a clear statement of the purpose of the work, the methods used, the results, and conclusions. The main text (excluding title, authors and affiliations) must not exceed 300 words.
The name of the presenting author should be underlined.

6. With the submission of the abstract authors confirm that any research conducted on animals followed international, national and/or institutional guidelines for humane animal treatment, and was in compliance with relevant legislation.
7. Please indicate below the abstract whether you prefer to give an oral presentation (talk) or present a poster. We will try to consider your preference; final decision however is made by the conference committee.
8. Irrespective of your preferred type of presentation, talk or poster, please note below the abstract to which of the four topics:
 1. Stress
 2. Reproduction
 3. Methodological issues
 4. New avenuesyour study fits best.
9. Please submit the abstract as a word document (.doc, .docx) to: noninvasive@vetmeduni.ac.at

Physiological validation of a non-invasive method for measuring adrenocortical activity in goats

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Glucocorticoids can be determined as a parameter of the stress response in plasma samples, and since recently also in faecal samples. The measurement of faecal cortisol metabolites (FCM) avoids confounding effects due to the disturbance during fixation and blood collection. The aim of this study was to demonstrate that FCM can be measured to reliably and non-invasively monitor adrenocortical activity in goats. Therefore, following the morning milking, ACTH (0.5 mg) was injected into the lateral cervical muscles of 20 goats. All voided faecal samples of each individual were collected immediately before until 24 hours after injection. FCM were determined by 2 group specific 11-oxo-aetiocholanolone enzyme immunoassays (EIAs). After approximately 9 hours concentrations of FCM started to increase. Peak values, which represented a ninefold increase above baseline, were reached about 13 (\pm 1.3) hours after ACTH administration. Afterwards, levels decreased again. However, even 24 hours after the injection, levels had not returned to baseline in all animals. The present study demonstrates that measurement of FCM by EIAs can be used to monitor adrenocortical activity in goats. This non-invasive method is a valuable tool to evaluate potentially aversive situations. It can be used in different research fields, such as ethology, livestock production, husbandry and animal welfare.

Preferred presentation: poster

Topic: stress