Successful pregnancy from artificial insemination after removal of a uterine leiomyoma
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A 16-year-old Thoroughbred mare was evaluated during her foal heat. All vital parameters were within normal limits. Transrectal ultrasound revealed a uterine mass located at the base of the right horn. Sterile saline injected into the uterus did not disperse into the body of the right horn past the mass, and the mass was thought to fill the entire lumen of the right horn. A small cyst was noted in the body of the left horn. Endoscopy of the uterus revealed a large, well encapsulated, lobulated mass and biopsies were collected for histopathology, however the biopsy report was inconclusive. The mare’s value rested in her breeding soundness, and she had produced many healthy, valuable foals in the past, so mass removal was elected with an expected return to reproductive function. The mass was removed a week later using laser surgery and manual extraction and consisted of soft tissue with a central area of calcification. Sections were submitted for histopathology, and a diagnosis of uterine leiomyoma was made. The mare was artificially inseminated during the next breeding season following the mass removal with fresh, cooled semen from an on-site stallion. At the time of abstract submission, this mare is 337 days pregnant and awaiting foaling. Uterine leiomyomas are the most common neoplasm of the human urogenital tract, and, while rare in animals, have been reported in cattle, non-human primates, cats, dogs, and sea mammals. Nearly all cases reported of equine uterine masses have involved the right horn and/or the right ovary. The reason for this discrepancy is unknown. Multiple techniques have been described to visualize and remove uterine masses, and a full return to breeding soundness appears to be the most commonly reported outcome.

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