Collection of stallion using XL human latex condom

Kimberly K. Abernathy-Young, a Etta Agan Bradecamp b

aKentucky Lake Equine Hospital, Benton, KY; bRood and Riddle Equine Clinic, Lexington, KY

A twelve-year-old Quarter Horse stallion was presented for inability to ejaculate. Prior to presentation, the stallion had been collected using a Missouri AV by the owner. The stallion had been trained to mount a breeding phantom and mount mares in standing estrus as well as ovariectomized mares at the owner’s farm. Approximately one month prior to presentation the stallion became unwilling to ejaculate in the Missouri AV. The owner reported he would mount the mare but would stop thrusting when his penis was placed in the Missouri AV.

Initially, upon presentation, the stallion was willing to mount an ovariectomized jump mare and ejaculate in the Missouri AV. Approximately two weeks from arrival he stopped mounting the ovariectomized jump mare but continued to mount the mare in standing estrus. As the weeks progressed he became more difficult to collect. Five times he required multiple mounts. A number of changes were made to ensure an ejaculation. Imipramine (1000 mg) was given orally two hours prior to collection. The ovariectomized mare was replaced with a mare in standing estrus. The possibility that pain was causing the unwillingness to ejaculate was also considered. He was placed on phenylbutazone (4.4 mg/kg) PO BID for 10 days and 6 grams ranitidine PO BID for 30 days. Subsequently, he was placed on 57 mg firocoxib PO SID. He was also allowed pasture turnout on a daily basis.

Upon the suggestion of a theriogenologist, an XL latex human condom (Trojan Magnum XL Latex Condom, Princeton, NJ) was used in place of the Missouri AV. The stallion was allowed to tease to a mare in standing estrus while in his stall. The mare was then placed in the collection area and the stallion was brought to the mare and allowed to tease to full erection. Once the stallion was fully erect, he was moved away from the mare and a technician placed the XL latex condom on the end of his penis, extending approximately 1/3 of the length of his shaft. The stallion was allowed to go back to the mare and mount. The stallion entered her vaginally, thrusted, and ejaculated. As the stallion dismounted, the technician removed the condom with the ejaculate. The ejaculate was processed routinely for cooled semen transport and acceptable pregnancy rates were achieved. On rare occasions, the condom would break during ejaculation, but collection was achieved 2 hours later. The stallion would not mount an ovariectomized mare, but he would mount mares in standing estrus. The imipramine was discontinued without any negative consequences.

This abstract illustrates the use of a human latex condom to collect an ejaculate from a stallion that had developed the inability/aversion to ejaculate into a Missouri AV. This method of collection provided a reliable method of obtaining an ejaculate when numerous other modalities had been attempted and it was imperative to obtain semen to satisfy breeding contracts and salvage a breeding season.

Although not a routine collection method, use of a XL latex condom is effective for stallion collection.

Keywords: Equine, collection, latex condom