

Diploma of Equine Dentistry Facts

To address any misinformation that has been circulated, we ask you to become aware of the facts regarding the planned introduction of the Diploma level equine dentist qualification.

Drugs and Diploma Qualification

Diploma level equine dentists will not be trained to prescribe or administer any drugs

Diploma competencies do not enable equine dentists to administer sedation, antibiotics or analgesics, but only to be educated in the underpinning knowledge. This will allow Diploma trained providers to be familiar with the effects of sedation and pain relief for procedures and enables appropriate case management.

Surgery and Diploma Qualification

Diploma level equine dentists will not perform facial or sinus surgery

Equine dentists who are non-vets will only perform procedures which they have undertaken around the world for many years and for which they have already been trained or which they are suitably experienced to perform.

Legislation supports the continued delivery of services by equine dentists in their long-established autonomous profession. Equine dental service providers are not seeking to practice veterinary medicine. There is no change of scope, and equine dentists' expertise continues to be focussed on oral procedures.

Collaboration with Veterinarians

Diploma level equine dentists will continue to work with vets as they have in the past.

Diploma competencies facilitate the collaboration between the equine dentist, horse owner and the owner's veterinarian. Equine dentists, working independently, will continue to refer to veterinarians when any case presented is beyond their competency. Better animal welfare outcomes will be achieved by veterinarians continuing to work together with equine dentists.

Equine Dentists and Regulation

Equine dentists will soon be more regulated

Not all equine dental service providers are insured or regulated under Codes of Conduct. Regulations proposed to be put in place by associations will assist to provide the highest level of care with protocols and monitoring of conduct. This will allow horse owners the freedom to choose their preferred equine dental care provider with confidence.



Peter Borgdorff – President

National Equine Dental Practitioners Inc.