

Mobile Equine Diagnostic Service

At

**The University of Florida
College of Veterinary Medicine**



MEDS Mission:

Currently, the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital provides many services to horse owners and referring veterinarians. These include diagnostic procedures such as endoscopy, gastroscopy, radiography, ultrasound, neurologic testing, and echocardiography. Through state-of-the-art digital technology these diagnostic procedures can now be performed in the field while maintaining the College's high standard of performance. In order to provide these adjunct services to referring veterinarians, the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences introduced the Mobile Equine Diagnostic Service (MEDS) in the fall of 2004. This program is committed to providing high-quality referral services in a farm setting. In addition, utilization of digital imaging and satellite communications allows consultation between in-the-field clinicians and specialists at the veterinary college. The MEDS program hopes to reinforce the College's commitment to referring veterinarians (RDVM) and maintain its role as a primary referral center by requiring all appointments to be made through a RDVM. MEDS also provides key clinical training for veterinary students pursuing a career in high-quality ambulatory equine medicine and surgery. Finally, MEDS hopes to maximize the quality of equine diagnostics provided in the field to referring veterinarians and horse owners.

MEDS Protocol:

MEDS will operate Monday through Friday (8am-6pm) via appointments and emergency calls. Ideally, MEDS will organize calls such that the MEDS unit will be in a specific area (e.g. Jacksonville, Ocala, Lake City, New Smyrna Beach, etc) for the entire day.

For appointments and phone consultation contact:

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Services offered through MEDS include:

- 1) Digital radiography
- 2) Endoscopy
- 3) Gastroscopy
- 4) Ultrasound
- 5) Echocardiogram/echocardiography
- 6) CBC/Chemistry/Blood gas analysis
- 7) Clinical consultation
- 8) Equine sweat testing
- 9) Foal pneumonia screen
- 10) Equine neurologic work-up package
- 11) Equine poor performance work-up package
- 12) Equine chronic weight loss work-up package
- 13) On-site satellite referral to VMTH



Figure 1 MEDS Unit