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A comparison of progesterone assays for determination of peripheral pregnane concentrations in the late pregnant mare

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2 A comparison of progesterone assays for determination of peripheral pregnane concentrations in
3 the late pregnant mare

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12
13 **Abstract**

14
15 During the latter half of gestation in mares, there is a complex milieu of pregnanes in peripheral
16 blood. Progesterone concentrations are often assessed by immunoassay during late gestation as a
17 measure of pregnancy well-being; however, interpretation of results is complicated by the
18 numerous cross-reacting pregnanes present in high concentrations during late gestation. Further,
19 many mares are supplemented with an exogenous progestin, altrenogest, which may also cross-
20 react with existing assays and further confound interpretation. The objectives of this study were:
21 1) to compare differences in pregnane concentrations determined with four immunoassays
22 compared to LC-MS/MS and 2) to assess cross-reactivity observed with the same immunoassays,

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