COVID-19 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AMBULATORY PRACTITIONERS

COMMUNICATION PRIOR TO ARRIVAL

- Use telemedicine if at all possible and delay non-essential appointments.
- Obtain the horse’s history and detail a workup plan with the owner/barn manager over the phone to limit interaction on the property.
- Inform the farm manager/caregiver of your biosecurity plan and verify if any person on the farm has been exposed to COVID-19.
- If laboratory testing or other third-party services may be necessary, verify in advance what services are available.

AT THE FARM

- Maintain at least a 6-foot distance and have the handler stand on the opposite side of the horse from the veterinarian (if possible).
- Limit attendance at the examination to one person only (additional people can be on speakerphone or FaceTime).
- When a technician or assistant is not available to handle a fractious animal, consider the use of oral or IM sedation before proceeding to IV sedation to hopefully facilitate solo treatment.

Use your own halter/lead rope/chain/lunge line.

Use electronic forms, documentation and payment processing whenever possible.

Consider wearing coveralls or layers over street clothes; remove coveralls after leaving the premises and place them in a bag for laundering.

Designate one tote to take limited materials out of the truck to the barn.

Learn more at https://aaep.org/resources/covid-19-resources-veterinarians

Equipment/supplies should be cleaned and disinfected after each farm and prior to the next visit.

Wash hands/use sanitizer frequently.

Disinfect vials and containers before handing to the client or submitting to a lab.