

Invitation to the

3rd Practical Equine Colic Surgery Course

Thursday to Saturday, 18. – 20. February 2027 at the Pferdeklinik Niederlenz, Switzerland

Information | Program

Practical Equine Colic Surgery Course

This course is designed for practicing equine surgeons and surgeons at any stage of training, particularly those involved in equine colic surgery.
The focus of the course lies on practicing several techniques of bowel anastomosis on well-prepared equine cadaver intestines.

Highlights:
- Expert lectures, discussions and videos
- Intensive hands-on practice using well prepared equine intestines
- Small groups allowing direct supervision with personal feedback
- Each surgical team will exist of two participants which will have ample opportunity to practice several intestinal anastomosis techniques
- Standardized and objective improvement assessment

Theory Topics Covered:
- Theatre setup, tips and tricks
- Sutures and instruments
- Surgical exploration
- Intestinal viability and decisions
- Step-by-step anastomosis techniques
- Abdominal closure
- Postoperative management
- Complications
- Prognosis
- Current and future research topics

Practical Skills:
Hands-on training includes:
- Suture patterns and knots particularly useful in abdominal surgery
- Jejuno-jejunal anastomosis
- Jejuno-cecal anastomosis
- Incomplete ileocecal bypass and hybrid jejuno-ileo-cecal anastomosis
- Large colon resection and anastomosis
- Small colon resection and anastomosis

Expected outcomes
By the end of the course the participant will be able to understand the different types of intestinal anastomosis, the pathophysiology of anastomotic healing and the principles of how to manage surgical equine colic cases.
The participant will be able to demonstrate various suturing techniques whilst performing hand sewn end-to-end small bowel anastomosis, jejunocecal hand-sewn end-to side and side-to-side anastomosis as well as colo-colic anastomosis on the ex-vivo models provided.

Speaker

Gessica Giusto, DVM, PhD, Associate Professor of Large Animal Surgery, University of Turin, Italy



Prof. Giusto graduated from the University of Turin in 2013 and completed her PhD there in 2018, focusing on the formation of abdominal adhesions. During her PhD, she also worked as an Assistant Equine Surgeon at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital of the University of Turin. She was appointed Assistant Professor in 2019 and Associate Professor of Large Animal Surgery in 2021. Her main areas of interest include colic surgery, laparoscopy, and wound healing. She has authored 55 peer-reviewed scientific articles, including more than 29 on equine colic surgery, and contributed to over 60 presentations at international congresses and symposia.

Anna Rötting, Dr., PhD, DECVS/ACVS, Fachtierärztin für Pferde, Klinikleitung Pferdeklinik Nindorf, Germany



Dr. Rötting completed her veterinary degree at the University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover in 1995. She subsequently completed a rotating internship and a three-year surgical residency at the University of Illinois, USA, where she remained as an Equine Surgery Fellow and Teaching Associate. She became a Diplomate of the ACVS in 2004 and the ECVS in 2005, and completed her PhD in equine gastrointestinal pathophysiology the same year. From 2005 to 2016, she was a senior clinician at the University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover, where she headed the surgical department and ECVS training programme. Since 2017, she has led the Pferdeklinik Nindorf.

Marco Gandini, DVM, PhD, Associate Professor of Large Animal Surgery, University of Turin, Italy



Prof. Gandini graduated from the University of Turin in 2002 and gained early experience in colic surgery at the University of Liverpool under the mentorship of Prof. Barry Edwards. He subsequently completed a PhD at the University of Turin, focusing on ischemia-reperfusion injury, and worked in equine private practice before joining the University of Turin as Assistant Professor in 2011. He became Associate Professor of Equine Surgery in 2020. His main research interests include anastomotic techniques and laparoscopy. He has authored or co-authored 70 scientific articles, including 41 on equine colic surgery, and contributed to over 100 presentations at professional congresses.

Nico Bolz, Dr. med vet, DECVS, Pferdeklinik Niederlenz, Switzerland



Dr. Bolz graduated from the University of Zurich in 2016 and subsequently completed a rotating internship at the Equine Hospital of the University of Zurich. He then gained experience at Sussex Equine Hospital in the UK and the surgical department of the University Equine Hospital in Zurich. He became a Diplomate ECVS in Large Animal Surgery in 2024 after completing his three-year residency at the Free University of Berlin. Based at the Pferdeklinik Niederlenz, his interest in practical surgical education, particularly in colic surgery, inspired him to co-organize this course.

Information

Costs:
The course includes lectures, wet labs, coffee, lunch, dinner and costs CHF 2‘800.- excl. tax.
(CHF 2’000.- excl. tax for active ECVS Residents, please attach proof of Residency).
Your registration will be confirmed when payment has been received. Please be aware that the course has a limited number of participants.

In case that you are unable to attend, the participation fees will be partial refunded: four weeks before the event 90% of the participation fee will be refunded, up to one week before the event 50% will be refunded.

Registration deadline:
19. January 2027

GST-Recognition:
This event is officially recognized by the SVPM and the GST.
The educational points have been applied for and will be announced as soon as possible.

Recommended hotels for overnight accommodation

Hotel Restaurant Ochsen:
Burghaldenstrasse 33
5600 Lenzburg
Tel. 062 886 40 80
https://www.online-reservations.com
www.ochsen-lenzburg.ch

Day 1, Thursday 18. February 2027

08:00	**Registration and coffee**
08:30	**Welcoming**
08:45	**Lecture:** Theatre setting, sutures and knots, instruments
09:15	**Lecture:** Surgical anatomy and routine exploration
10:00	**Coffee break**
10:30	**Lecture:** intestinal viability and decision making, resection/decompression
11:15	**Lecture:** Jejuno-jejunal anastomosis
12:00	**Lunch**
13:15	**Wet lab:** Jejuno-jejunal anastomosis
15:45	**Coffee break**
16:15	**Lecture:** Managing specific pathologies of the small intestine
17:15	**Lecture:** Different/ future perspectives on abdominal surgery
19:00	**Joint dinner, further information will be provided**

Practical Colic Surgery Course

Day 2, Friday 19. February 2027

08:00	**Registration and coffee**
08:15	**Lecture:** General techniques for side-to-side anastomosis
08:45	**Lecture:** Viable ileocecal valve and/or partially viable ileum: incomplete ileocecal bypass and hybrid jejuno-ileo-cecal anastomosis
09:15	**Coffee break**
09:45	**Wet lab:** Incomplete ileocecal bypass and hybrid jejuno-ileo-cecal anastomosis
12:00	**Lunch**
13:00	**Lecture:** Non-viable ileum: handsewn end-to-side and side-to-side jejunocaecostomy
13:45	**Wetlab:** Handsewn end-to-side and side-to-side jejunocaecostomy
15:45	**Coffee break**
16:15	**Lecture :** Use of staplers and stapled side-to-side jejunocaecostomy
16:45	**Wet lab:** Stapled side-to-side jejunocaecostomy
19:00	**Joint dinner, further information will be provided**

Practical Colic Surgery Course

Day 3, Saturday 20. February 2027

08:00	**Registration and coffee**
08:15	**Lecture**: Ileocolic bypass, cecal / cecocolic intussusception
08:45	**Lecture:** Large colon pathologies and surgical techniques
09:30	**Coffee break**
10:00	**Wet lab:** Large colon enterotomy, wedge resection, extensive large colon resection and anastomosis
12:00	**Lunch**
13:00	**Lecture:** Small colon resection and anastomosis
13:30	**Wet lab:** Handsewn end-to-end small colon anastomosis
14:30	**Coffee break**
15:00	**Lecture:** Abdominal closure and prevention of SSI
15:30	**Lecture:** Post-operative management, complications and prognosis, relaparotomy
17:00	**Closing session**
17:30	**End of course**