

## **WHAT ARE THE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH EQUINE LAMENESS?**

### 1. Difficulty in diagnosing.

- Some causes of lameness in horses do not exhibit an abnormality in the gait.
- It may be more difficult to diagnose lameness in a very heavy horse that is not displaying obvious signs.
- To a newly graduated Veterinarian, it may be hard to tell if very mild lameness is present.
- Some severely lame horses may be in too much pain and will be reluctant to trot or run for the Veterinarian to examine them.

### 2. There can be secondary soreness.

- This occurs in a different location of the affected limb resulting in the contralateral limb being overused.
- The contralateral limb compensates for the lameness but results in lames as well due to overuse.

### 3. Loss of use of the limb and/or the horse.

## **References**

- 1) The difficulties in diagnosing lameness in heavy horses [Internet]. Westover Vets. 2012 [cited 2020Oct3]. Available from: <https://www.westovervets.co.uk/difficulties-diagnosing-lameness-heavy-horses/>
- 2) Adams SB, By, Adams SB, Last full review/revision Sep 2015 | Content last modified Oct 2015. Overview of Lameness in Horses - Musculoskeletal System [Internet]. Veterinary Manual. MSD Veterinary Manual; [cited 2020Oct3]. Available from: <https://www.msdrvetermanual.com/musculoskeletal-system/lameness-in-horses/overview-of-lameness-in-horses>