

CONSENT FORM FOR OOCYTE ASPIRATION

AUTHORIZATION AND CONSENT:

TRANSVAGINAL ULTRASOUND-GUIDED FOLLICLE ASPIRATION

Transvaginal ultrasound-guided follicle aspiration (TVA) is a procedure that is used to collect an oocyte(s) (egg) directly from an ovarian follicle. Intracytoplasmic sperm injection is then performed on the oocyte(s) using frozen semen provided by the mare owner, and then cultured to the possible embryo stage. Should the ICSI process result in a suitable embryo(s), the embryo(s) will be transferred in to a suitable recipient mare provided by Hofmann Center.

The TVA procedure involves placing a transvaginal ultrasound probe into the vagina of the mare to allow imaging of the ovarian follicle. Following placement of the probe, and using the ultrasound image as a guide, a needle is advanced into the follicle, which allows the follicular fluid and oocyte to be collected.

The success of collecting an oocyte using the TVA procedure in our hands is approximately 50%. Because this procedure is relatively new, data on risks associated with it are still being compiled. Although the procedure is minimally invasive, there are risks. The procedure involves transrectal manipulation of the reproductive tract, so there is the risk of a rectal tear; in addition, although the needle is advanced with ultrasound guidance, there is the potential for the needle to puncture a blood vessel in or around the reproductive tract or to cause infection in the abdomen. If the needle causes internal bleeding or peritonitis, it can be a life-threatening situation. There has been one report of a mare suffering severe internal bleeding following the TVA procedure. Based on that published report, the risk of severe bleeding is low (less than 0.3%). Although the risks associated with the TVA procedure are low, they cannot be completely eliminated.

I acknowledge that I have read the above, and understand the cited risks. I also understand that no guarantee or assurance can be made of the results that may be obtained with this procedure.

Mare name: _____

Owner's name: _____

Owner/Agent Signature: _____

Date: _____