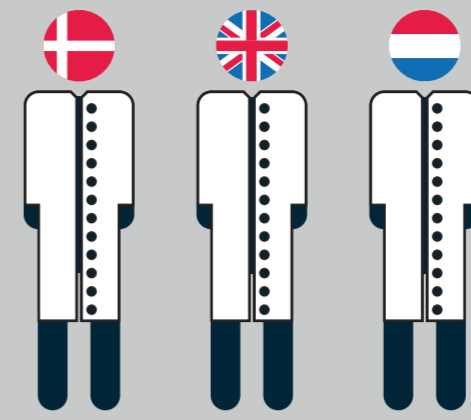


# IMPROVING INTESTINAL HEALTH THROUGH THE FAECAL TRANSPLANT

## PRESENTING THE STUDY



A paper presented at the :  
*European Workshop of Equine Nutrition (EWAN)*  
held from the 16th to the 18th  
of August 2018



Denmark  
Great Britain  
The Netherlands

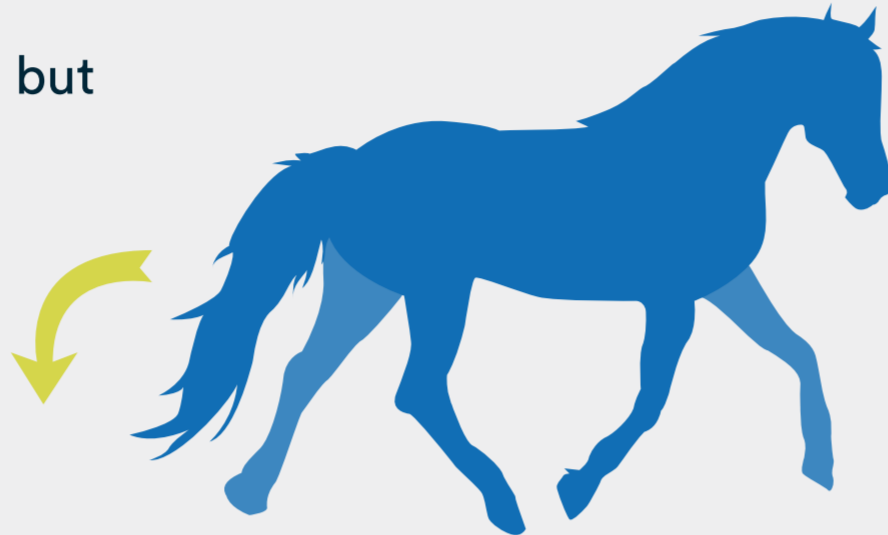
Undertaken by researchers from 3 European countries

## WHAT IS THE FREE FAECAL WATER SYNDROME ?

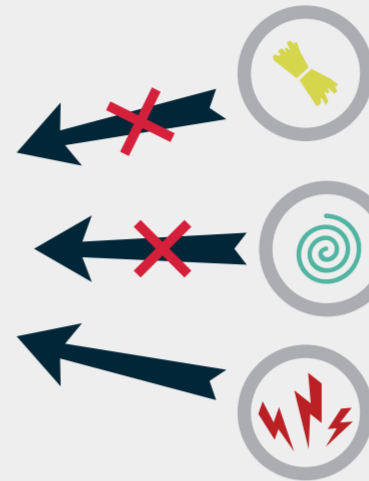
The horse passes normal droppings but with a loss of water before or after

### Consequences :

- Dirty hind quarters and hind legs
- Hair loss  
*in the most severe cases*



*A benign but unaesthetic disorder.*



### Causes ?

Dietary :  
**Refuted**

Parasitic :  
**Refuted**

Stress :  
**Validated**

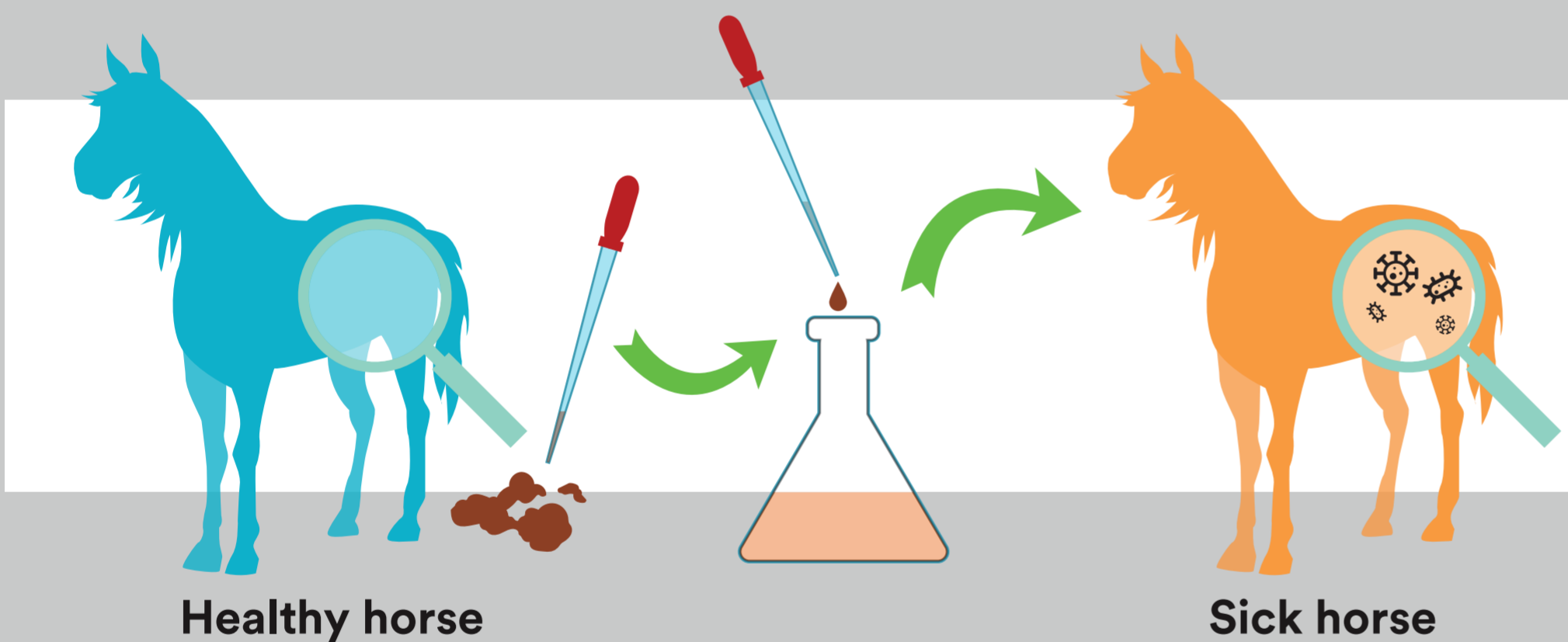
At this time we do not know how to treat this disorder

## Question ;

Is it possible to treat this condition by using faecal transplants ?

## METHOD EMPLOYED : THE FAECAL TRANSPLANT

Intestinal microbiota = all bacteria + fungi + archaea that live in an individuals intestine  
→ Play an essential part in the health of the horse



1. The droppings (faeces) of a healthy horse were collected and mixed with saline solution

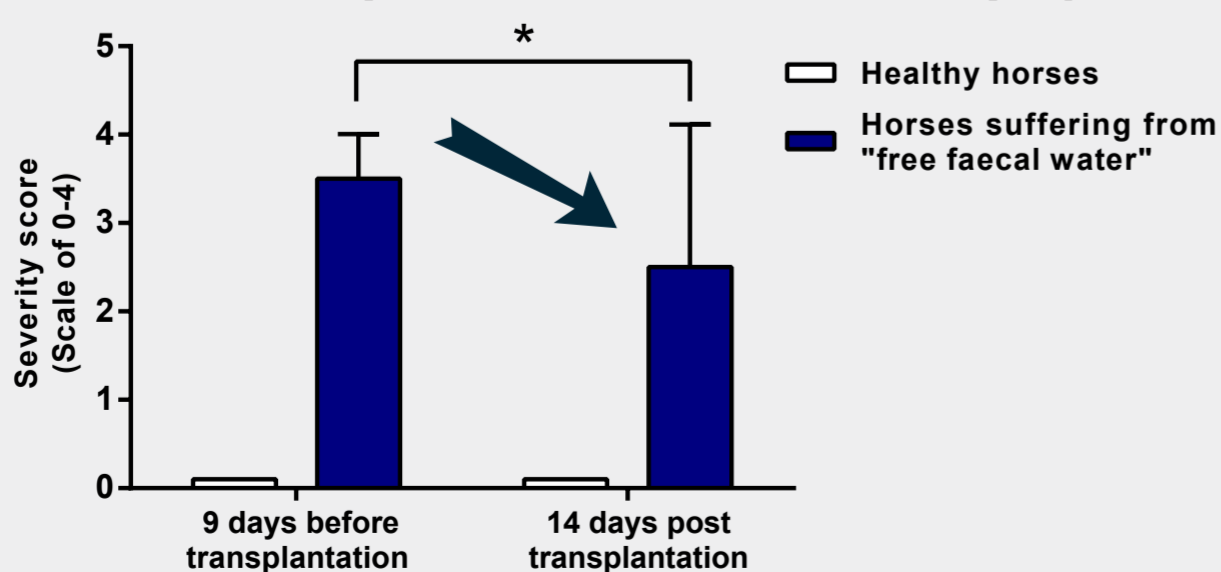
2. To reduce gastric acidity and to avoid killing the bacteria present in the healthy horses' droppings the sick horse received omeprazole.

3. The sick horse received the mixture by nasogastric intubation

**Objective : replace the intestinal microbiota of a sick horse with that of a healthy one.**

## THE FINDINGS

The severity of "free faecal water" symptoms were measured on a scale of 0 to 4



From 14 days onwards after transplantation, horses showed an average 1 point drop in symptom severity

## CONCLUSION

If carried out under correct conditions, faecal transplants can be of help for horses suffering from troubles related to disturbances to the intestinal microbiota.