

Recommended Radiographs for a Pre-Purchase Exam

Frequently when planning for a pre-purchase exam radiographs or x-rays will be considered whether to use to evaluate a potential horse more thoroughly so we know more about physical conditions, to help explain the reason for an issue with the way of traveling or flexing, to investigate some thickness or swelling in the leg and/or to protect your investment so that one has a thorough understanding of what you are starting with as you start the relationship with this new horse. Although not required for a PPE, they are often recommended depending on the horse, the work intentions, history of issues, the results of the exam and/or investment. I have listed below radiographs that are frequently used so that if an exam is done elsewhere and a Veterinarian asks what you would like evaluated, this can be used. I've divided them up between what I feel are more essential versus ones that may be recommended depending on some of the above mentioned factors:

Front Feet:

4 views of each forefoot – this will evaluate the area from the tip of the coffin bone up to the fetlock.

1. 65 degree D-V view
2. Flexor view of the navicular bone
3. Lateral view of forefoot
4. A/P view of forefoot

If the **Front Fetlocks** will not be included in the last 2 views, this depends on the individual, ask for 2 fetlock views.

1. Lateral view
2. A/P view

Hind Fetlocks can be important as well and I would recommend the same 2 views as above +/- oblique views depending on the horse.

Hocks:

4 views of each hock – these are standard views:

1. DP
2. LM
3. DLO
4. DMO

Stifle:

Generally I recommend including 2-3 views of each stifle:

1. CdCr
 2. CdLCrMO
 3. LM
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With our capabilities to take radiographs of upper limb/body areas other regions may be investigated and are often recommended by me and others:

Neck:

- especially looking at the lower cervical vertebrae region

Back (Kissing Spine Area):

- recommend 2-3 views from mid withers through the proximal Lumbar Vertebrae region

It is often suggested to allow the examining veterinarian some latitude on choosing other areas to examine as a positive flexion test or swelling around a joint may require more films than those listed below.

Please ask that the films be sent before you make a decision on purchase as having the examining veterinarian plus myself evaluate them will give

you two opinions. If helpful, provide the contact information for the examining Veterinarian as we may need to discuss the results of the exam.

If they are digital radiographs they can be emailed: bevet@gmavt.net

I am usually available for questions during or after the exam through the office or by cell phone: 802-343-2056. If you would like for me to speak with the examining veterinarian feel free to give them my contact information.

If you need information on other areas you want evaluated, please let me know.

Randolph C. Frantz, DVM