

Meet our Researchers



Dr. François-René Bertin is a Senior Lecturer in Equine Internal Medicine at the School of Veterinary Science at The University of Queensland and a Senior Clinician at the Equine Specialist Hospital at UQ VETS. He is a member of the international Equine Endocrinology Group as well as the Australasian Equine Endocrinology Focus Group. He is also Assistant Chair of the Education and Research Committee of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM).

François-René received his doctorate in veterinary medicine in 2008 from the University of Nantes in France, where he studied how endotoxins alter vasoconstriction in equine laminitis. He then moved to the United States to complete a residency in Large Animal Internal Medicine and a Master of Science at Purdue University where his research focused on the early detection of equine endocrine disorders associated with laminitis such as insulin dysregulation and pituitary pars intermedia dysfunction. After becoming an ACVIM diplomate, François-René moved to Canada in 2012 to complete his PhD in physiology at the Lady Davis Institute for Medical Research at McGill University. There, he investigated the links between inflammation and vascular biology.

At The University of Queensland since 2016, François-René investigates the factors associated with insulin dysregulation and hypothalamo-pituitary-adrenal axis disorders to improve diagnostic tools and therapeutic options for laminitic horses. His research is currently focusing on the cross-talks between inflammation and endocrine disorders. By using spontaneous models of equine endocrinopathy, François-René has developed innovative testing protocols readily available to veterinary practitioners to help them manage laminitic horses in the field.

François-René is currently accepting HDR students to work on equine endocrinology projects.

Dr. François-René Bertin studies the hormonal changes leading to laminitis in horses. One research axis focuses on defining the factors associated with equine insulin dysregulation and pituitary pars intermedia dysfunction. A second axis aims to define the cross-talks between hormonal regulation and inflammation.