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## Outbreak of tetanus in a mare in Republic of Korea

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Tetanus is an acute, often fatal, infectious disease caused by tetanospasmin, a neurotoxin of the anaerobic spore-forming bacteria *Clostridium tetani*. Tetanus spores are commonly introduced into tissues through wounds and they convert under anaerobic conditions to a vegetative toxin-producing form. We report here a case of *C. tetani* infection in a horse. A seven-year-old thoroughbred mare had laceration on the fetlock of right hind leg two weeks prior to her death. She had a raised tail, extended head and neck and was salivating profusely. The third eyelids were prolapsed and covered the eyes. Almost all voluntary movement was impossible because of hyper-responsiveness to tactile and auditory stimuli. The necropsy was performed and there were no specific lesions. *C. tetani* was cultured from wound swab of the fetlock of right hind leg. Based on the characteristic clinical signs of generalized tetanus and detection of *C. tetani* from wound, a diagnosis of tetanus associated with *C. tetani* was made.

### Biography

Kichan Lee has completed her PhD from School of Veterinary Medicine, Seoul National University. She is a Researcher of Bacterial Diseases Division, Animal and Plant Quarantine Agency, South Korea. She has studied bacterial diseases of animals and antimicrobial resistance of bacteria isolated from diseased animals and livestock products.

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