

# CURRICULUM VITAE

W. Robert Cook, F.R.C.V.S., Ph.D.,

**Summary:** Cook graduated from the Royal Veterinary College, London in 1952. Apart from three years in mixed practice and another three years in horse practice during his immediate post-graduate years, he has been a clinician, teacher and research worker for the whole of his career. For eight years he was a senior scientist at the Equine Research Centre of the Animal Health Trust in Newmarket, England, and for the remaining years he has been a member of faculty of University Veterinary Schools in Britain and the United States. During this time his primary appointment has been in departments of surgery, with a secondary appointment, latterly, in a department of anatomy. His research focus has been the study of diseases of the mouth, ear, nose and throat in the horse, with a special interest in respiratory problems. He was appointed Professor of Surgery *Emeritus* at Tufts University in 1994. Since then he has continued with and further developed his equine research. Currently, his research interests relate to the refinement of a nerve conduction test for grading spinal and recurrent laryngeal neuropathy; the cause of pulmonary "bleeding"; and the harmful effect of the bit method of control on the health and welfare of horse and rider.

## Personal:

Birth: 8 December 1930

Citizenship: British

US Citizenship pending clearance by the FBI!

Married (Margaret Elizabeth); three stepsons (Nicholas, Peter and Robin Kirk)

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## Education:

1952 Member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (M.R.C.V.S.),  
Graduated from the Royal Veterinary College, London

1966 Fellow of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (F.R.C.V.S.), by  
thesis

1976 Ph.D., University of Cambridge, England

## Awards:

1952 Clinical Prize, final year Royal Veterinary College

1952 Surgery Prize, final year, Royal Veterinary College

1952	Bronze Medal, Royal Agricultural Society of England
1963	Harry Steele-Bodger Travel Scholarship
1974	BEVA Trust Open Award
1976	BEVA Sir Frederick Hobday Memorial Lecturer
1989	RCVS Share-Jones Lectureship, U.K. (Memorial Lecture in Anatomy)
1991	Tierklinik-Hochmoor Award, West Germany (for "outstanding research on diseases of the ear, nose and throat of the horse")
1996	Honorary Phi Zeta Membership
2001	Honorary Member of the Institute of Barefoot Equine Management

### **Appointments:**

2000-	Chairman, <i>The Bitless Bridle Inc.</i> ,.
1994-	Professor of Surgery <i>Emeritus</i> , Tufts University Cumming's School of Veterinary Medicine, North Grafton. MA 01536
1979-94	Professor of Surgery, School of Veterinary Medicine, Tufts University, North Grafton MA.
1985-1996	Professor of Anatomy and Cellular Biology, School of Medicine, Tufts University, Boston, MA.
1981-1982	Acting Dean, School of Veterinary Medicine, Tufts University, North Grafton, MA.
1979-1982	Associate Dean of Clinical Sciences, School of Veterinary Medicine, Tufts University, Grafton, MA.
1979-1980	Acting chairperson, Departments of Medicine and Surgery, School of Veterinary Medicine, Tufts University, North Grafton, MA.
1977-1979	Professor of Equine Medicine and Surgery, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Illinois, Urbana. Illinois USA
1969-1977	Scientific Officer (Grade I), Equine Research Station of the Animal Health Trust, Newmarket, Suffolk. UK
1965-1969	Senior Lecturer, Department of Surgery, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Glasgow.
1967-1968	Visiting Senior Lecturer, Department of Clinical Veterinary Medicine, University of Nairobi, Kenya
1959-1965	Lecturer, Department of Surgery, Royal Veterinary College, University of London.
1958-1959	House Surgeon, School of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Clinical Sciences, University of Cambridge.
1955-1958	Assistant to J.R. Brain, M.R.C.V.S., Sherborne, Gloucestershire. Equine practice.
1952-1955	Assistant to Messrs. Hale and Brown, M's.R.C.V.S., Chippenham, Wiltshire. General practice.

**Administrative Experience:**

- 1983-1985 Head of Large Animal Surgery, Tufts University.
- 1981-1982 Acting Dean, School of Veterinary Medicine, Tufts University.
- 1979-1982 Associate Dean of Clinical Sciences, School of Veterinary Medicine, Tufts University.
- 1977-1979 Head of Equine Section, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Illinois.
- 1967-1968 Head of Small Animal Clinic, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Nairobi.
- 1965-1969 Head of Large Animal Surgery, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Glasgow.
- 1961-1977 Founding member (1961) and first Honorary Secretary (1961-1963), British Equine Veterinary Association. Member of Council; 1961-1977. Chairman of the Scientific Committee; 1974-1976. Junior Vice-President; 1975. President Elect; 1976. Emigrated to the USA in 1977 and unable to serve as President
- 1961-1964 Council member, British Veterinary Association.
- 1963-1965 Council member, Royal Society of Medicine, Section of Comparative Medicine.

**Research Experience:**

Clinical research on diseases of the mouth, ear, nose and throat in the horse has constituted the major topic of Cook's research since 1959, when research (as opposed to practice) was first commenced. In order to investigate the possibility that equine recurrent laryngeal neuropathy was a hereditary disease, he carried out a genetic analysis of the Thoroughbred. Other major research projects have included the development of a nerve conduction test for the objective diagnosis of spinal and recurrent laryngeal neuropathy in the horse; the cause of exercise-induced pulmonary hemorrhage in the horse; and the evaluation of a more effective and painless alternative to the bit for communicating with the horse's head at exercise, introducing a new design concept for a bitless bridle.

**Teaching Experience:**

- 1958-1959 University of Cambridge: Practical instruction in small and large animal medicine and surgery.
- 1959-1965 University of London: Lecturing and practical instruction on head, neck and chest surgery in all species.
- 1965-1969 University of Glasgow: Lecturing and practical instruction on head, neck and chest surgery in all species; equine lameness and orthopedics; lecture course in jurisprudence.

- 1967-1968 University of Nairobi: Lecturing and practical instruction on medicine and surgery of small animals; anesthesia and radiology.
- 1977-1979 University of Illinois: Lecturing and practical instruction on equine medicine and surgery of the respiratory system; oral and dental surgery; diseases of the ear and nervous system.
- 1975-1977 University of Bristol: External examiner in veterinary surgery for Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery degree.
- 1975-1976 University of Glasgow: External examiner for two Master of Veterinary Science dissertations.
- 1980-1994 Tufts University: Lecturing, laboratory course and practical instruction in head, neck and chest surgery in large animals; respiratory systems course; Elective in ENT surgery of horse; clinical restraint and techniques course
- 1985-1996 Tufts University: School of Medicine. Lecturing and demonstrating on veterinary anatomy

### **Consultancies:**

- 1982-1988 Member of review panel for AVMA National Board Examinations
- 1985 Kuwait Government. One week spent in Kuwait at the invitation of the Director of the Department of Agriculture, to advise on horse health.
- 1987-1994 H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum at Kildangan Stud, Ireland, with respect to annual airflow evaluation surveys on foals, yearlings, brood mares and stallions
- 1989 & 1991 H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, to advise on racing camels in Dubai, UAE.

### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

#### **Scientific Publications and Monographs:**

1. Cook, W.R.: Clinical observations on the equine soft palate. *British Equine Veterinary Association Bulletin*, 1:5-9, 1962.
2. Cook, W.R. and Rossdale, P.D.: The syndrome of "broken wind" in the horse. *Proceedings Royal Society of Medicine*, 11:971-977, 1963.
3. Cook, W.R.: A routine for the clinical examination of the nasal chambers and nasopharynx in the dog. *Veterinary Record*, 76:859-862, 1964.
4. Cook, W.R.: Observations on the upper respiratory tract of the dog and cat. *Journal of Small Animal Practice*, 5:309-329, 1965.
5. Cook, W.R.: The diagnosis of respiratory unsoundness in the horse. *Veterinary Record*, 77:516-528, 1965.
6. Cook, W.R.: Aetiology of otitis externa in the dog. *Journal of Small Animal Practice*, 6:453-456, 1966.
7. Cook, W.R.: Dental surgery in the horse. *British Equine Veterinary Association Bulletin*, 1:11-17, 1965/66.

8. Cook, W.R.: Observations on the aetiology of epistaxis and cranial nerve paralysis in the horse. *Veterinary Record*, 78:396-406, 1966.
9. Cook, W.R.: Clinical observations on the anatomy and physiology of the equine upper respiratory tract. *Veterinary Record*, 79:440-446, 1966.
10. Cook, W.R.: The clinical features of guttural pouch mycosis in the horse. *Veterinary Record*, 83:336-345, 1968.
11. Cook, W.R., Campbell, R.S.F. and Dawson, C.: The pathology and aetiology of guttural pouch mycosis in the horse. *Veterinary Record*, 83:422-428, 1968.
12. Cook, W.R. and Tompsett, D.H.: Anatomical models prepared by corrosion casting. *Medical and Biological Illustration*, 18:183-188, 1968.
13. Cook, W.R.: Instrument specifications for endoscopy of the equine upper respiratory tract and eustachian tube diverticulum. *Veterinary Record*, 87:429-437, 1970.
14. Cook, W.R.: A comparison of idiopathic laryngeal paralysis in man and horse. *Journal of Laryngology and Otology*, 84:819-835, 1970.
15. Cook, W.R.: Procedure and technique for endoscopy of the equine respiratory tract and eustachian tube diverticulum. *Equine Veterinary Journal*, 2:137-152, 1970.
16. Cook, W.R.: Skeletal radiology of the equine head. *Journal of American Veterinary Radiology*, 11:35-55, 1970.
17. Cook, W.R.: Diseases of the ear, nose and throat in the horse: Part I: The ear. *Veterinary Annual*, 12:12-43, Bristol, John Wright, 1971.
18. Palmer, A.C., Blakemore, W.F., Cook, W.R., Platt, H. and Whitwell, K.: Cerebellar hypoplasia and degeneration in the young Arab horse: Clinical and neuropathological features. *Veterinary Record*, 93:62-66, 1973.
19. Cook, W.R.: The auditory tube diverticulum (guttural pouch) in the horse: Its radiographic examination. *Journal of American Veterinary Radiology*, 14:51-71, 1973.
20. Cook, W.R.: Diarrhoea in the horse associated with stress and tetracycline therapy. *Veterinary Record*, 93:15-16, 1973. (Letter to editor)
21. Cook, W.R.: Some observations on diseases of the ear, nose and throat in the horse and endoscopy using a flexible fiberoptic endoscope. *Veterinary Record*, 94:533-541, 1974.
22. Cook, W.R.: Epistaxis in the racehorse. *Equine Veterinary Journal*, 5:45-58, 1974.
23. Cook, W.R. and Littlewort, M.C.G.: Progressive haematoma of the ethmoid region in the horse. *Equine Veterinary Journal*, 6:101-108, 1974..
24. Cook, W.R.: Hereditary diseases. *Proceedings of the International Symposium on Genetics and Horse-Breeding*, Royal Dublin Society, 1975.
25. Cook, W.R.: Chronic bronchitis and alveolar emphysema in the horse. *Veterinary Record*, 99:448-451, 1976.
26. Cook, W.R.: Surgical repair of cleft soft palate in the horse. *Veterinary Record*, 100:326, 1977. (Letter to editor)
27. Cook, W.R.: Hereditary diseases and defects in the horse. *Proceedings of the British Equine Veterinary Association Liaison Meeting with Horse and Other*

- Breed Societies*, May, 1976, London.
28. Cook, W.R.: Chronic pulmonary disease in horses. *Veterinary Record*, 101:214, 1977
  29. Cook, W.R.: The biomechanics of intermittent suffocation at exercise in the horse. *Der Praktische Tierarzt*, 4:288-294, 1982.
  30. Cook W.R. and Chandler, N.,. Sternothyrohyoid myectomy in the treatment of soft palate problems. Abstract: *Proceedings of the British Equine Veterinary Association Congress*, September, 1978, p40
  31. Cook, W.R.: An ear for music. *Veterinary Record*, 39-41, 1978. (Letter to editor)
  32. Cook, W.R.: The diagnosis of respiratory disease in the horse: Clinical guidelines. *Proceedings of the First Illinois Respiratory Symposium*, p. 39-45, 1978.
  33. Cook, W.R.: Headshaking in the horse, Part I: Description of the syndrome. *Equine Practice*, 1(5):9-17, 1979.
  34. Cook, W.R.: Headshaking in the horse, Part II: History and management tests. *Equine Practice*, 1(6):36-39, 1979.
  35. Cook, W.R.: Headshaking in the horse, Part III: Diagnostic tests. *Equine Practice*, 2(1):31-40, 1980.
  36. Cook, W.R.: Headshaking in the horse, Part IV: Special diagnostic features. *Equine Practice*, 2(2):7-15, 1980.
  37. Cook, W.R.: Some observations on form and function of the equine upper airway in health and disease, Part I: The pharynx. *Proceedings of the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the American Association of Equine Practitioners*, p. 355-392, Nov.-Dec. 1981.
  38. Cook, W.R.: Some observations on form and function of the equine airway in health and disease, Part II: The larynx. *Proceedings of the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the American Association of Equine Practitioners*, 393-452, Nov.-Dec. 1981.
  39. Duckett, W.M., Baum, J.L. and Cook, W.R.: Bronchial foreign body in a horse. *Equine Practice*, 1981.
  40. Greet, T.R.C., Jeffcott, L.B., Whitwell, Katherine E. and Cook, W.R.: The slap test for laryngeal adductory function in horses with suspected cervical spinal cord damage. *Equine Veterinary Journal*, 12(3):127-131, 1980.
  41. Colles, C.M. and Cook, W.R.: Carotid and cerebral angiography in the horse. *Veterinary Record*, 113:483-489, 1983.
  42. Jann, H.W. and Cook, W.R.: Transendoscopic electrosurgery for epiglottal entrapment in the horse. *Journal of the American Veterinary Association*, 187:484-492, 1985.
  43. Cook, W.R.: Diseases of the auditive tube diverticulum in the horse. In: *Current Therapy in Equine Medicine, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition*, Robinson, E. (ed.), W.B. Saunders Co., p.612-618, 1986.
  44. Cook, W.R., Williams, R.M., Kirker-Head, C.A. and Verbridge, D.J.: Upper airway obstruction (partial asphyxia) as the possible cause of exercise induced pulmonary hemorrhage in the horse: an hypothesis. *Journal of Equine Veterinary Science*, 8:11-26, 1988.

45. Cook, W.R.: Diagnosis and grading of hereditary recurrent laryngeal neuropathy in the horse. *Journal of Equine Veterinary Science*, 8:432-455, 1988.
46. Cook, W.R.: Hypotheses on exercise-induced pulmonary hemorrhage in horses. *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association*, 193:8-10, 1988. (Letter to editor)
47. Cook, W.R.: Recent observations on recurrent laryngeal neuropathy in the horse: Applications to practice. *Proceedings of the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the American Association of Equine Practitioners*, pp 427-478, 1988.
48. Cook, W.R.: Dr. Cook's response to the opening of the discussion. *Proceedings of the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the American Association of Equine Practitioners*, pp 487-489, 1988.
49. Cook, W.R.: Exercise-induced dyspnea in horses. Part 1: Examination of the race horse at exercise. *Modern Veterinary Practice*, 69:(2), 92-95, 1988.
50. Cook, W.R.: Exercise-induced dyspnea in horses. Part 2: Examination of the pleasure horse at exercise. *Modern Veterinary Practice*, 69:(3), 149-153, 1988.
51. Cook, W.R. and de Gresti, A.: Sedation as an aid to the diagnosis of recurrent laryngeal neuropathy (RLN). *Proceedings of the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress of the European Society of Veterinary Surgery*, Milan, pp 55-59, September, 1988.
52. Cook, W.R.: Exercise-induced pulmonary hemorrhage in the horse: An animal model for idiopathic primary pulmonary hemosiderosis in man (Abstract). *Journal of Investigative Surgery*, 1:228, 1988.
53. Cook, W.R.: Examination for soundness of wind as an aid in the selection and management of racehorses: A preventive medicine counseling program. *Equine Practice*. 11:39-41, 1989.
54. Cook, W.R.: A protocol for the clinical examination of the horse's head, neck and chest. *Proceedings of the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the American Association of Equine Practitioners*, pp 459-479, 991.
55. Cook, W.R. and Thalhammer, J.G.: Electro-diagnostic test for the objective grading of recurrent laryngeal neuropathy in the horse. *Proceedings of the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the American Association of Equine Practitioners*, pp. 275-296, 1991.
56. Cook, W.R. and Kirk, N.W.: Hereditary diseases of the horse and their prevention. *Irish Veterinary Journal*, 44:59-66, 1991.
57. Cook, W.R.: Some problems relating to the genetic welfare of the middle weight horse breeds in the British Isles. In *Proceedings of Second International Conference on the Genetic Conservation of Domestic Livestock*. Vol 2 Eds: Alderson L. and Bodo 1, CAB International, Wallingford UK, pp 192-204, 1991.
58. Cook, W.R.: Some observations on respiration at exercise in the racing camel (dromedary). *Proceedings of the First International Camel Symposium*, Dubai UAE. R & W Publications, Newmarket UK, pp 235-242, 1992.
59. Cook, W.R.: Headshaking in horses: An afterword. *Compendium on Continuing Education for the Practicing Veterinarian*, 14:1369-1376, 1992.
60. Cook, W.R.: Etiology of exercise-induced pulmonary hemorrhage in the horse. *Journal American Veterinary Medical Association*, October, 1992 (letter to the

editor).

61. Cook, W.R.: Questions theory on cause of exercise-induced pulmonary hemorrhage. *Journal of the American Veterinary Association*, 201:1661-1662, 1992.
62. Cook, W.R.: Nature adores a vacuum. *Irish Veterinary Journal*, 46:32, 1993.
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65. Cook, W.R.: Selecting a stakes-class horse: the ELG solution. *Irish Veterinary Journal*, 48:240-244, 1995
66. Cook, W.R.: Jaw width rebuttal from Dr Cook. *Equine Veterinary Data*, 16:71, 1995
67. Verbridge, D.J., Cook, W.R., and Kirker-Head, C.A.: Measurement and comparison of cervical tracheal pressures in two exercising horses. *The Equine Athlete* 9, 16-19. 1996
68. Cook, W.R.: Use of the bit in horses. *Veterinary Record*. 142, 16. 1998
69. Cook, W.R.: Use of the bit in horses. *Veterinary Record*. July 13, 1998, p 676 (Vol 142, #24)
70. Cook, W.R.: Pathophysiology of Bit Control in the Horse. *Journal Equine Veterinary Science* 19: 196-204, 1999
71. Cook, W.R.: The ear, the nose, and the lie in the throat. In "*Guardians of the Horse: Past, Present and Future.*" Ed: Rosedale, P.D., Greet, T.R.C., Harris, P.A., Green, R.E., and Hall, S.. British Equine Veterinary Association and Romney Publications, 1999, pp 175-182.
72. Cook, W.R.: A solution to respiratory and other problems caused by the bit. *Pferdeheilkunde*, 16, 333-351, 2000
73. Cook W.R.: Educated Owners and Barefoot Horses; an open letter to veterinarians. *Journal of Equine Veterinary Science*, 21, 471-473, 2001
74. Cook, W.R.: Bit-induced asphyxia in the horse: Elevation and dorsal displacement of the soft palate at exercise. *Journal of Equine Veterinary Science*, 22, 7-14, 2002
75. Cook, W.R.: Bit-Induced Pain; a cause of fear, flight, fight and facial neuralgia in the horse. *Pferdeheilkunde*, 19, 1-8, 2003
76. Cook, W.R.: The 'Why,' 'What' and 'How' of fitting the crossover bitless bridle. Online at [www.bitlessbridle.com](http://www.bitlessbridle.com)
77. Cook, W.R.: Professional Dismissiveness of Equine Barefootedness. *Journal of Equine Veterinary Science*, 23, 564-566, 2003
78. Cook, W.R.: Horseshoes Totally Indefensible. *Journal of Equine Veterinary Science*. 24, 266, 2004
79. Cook, W.R.: Feeding, management and equine dentistry. *Veterinary Record*. 156, 751 2005

80. Cook, W.R.: Treatment for dorsal displacement of the soft palate in horses. *Veterinary Record* December 3, 157, 752, 2005

#### **DISSERTATIONS:**

1. Cook, W.R.: "*Observations on a mycotic disease of the guttural pouch in the horse*". Fellowship Thesis, Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons' Library, London, 1966.
2. Cook, W.R.: "*Idiopathic laryngeal paralysis in the horse: A clinical and pathological study with particular reference to diagnosis, aetiology, and treatment*". PhD Thesis, Cambridge University Library, Cambridge, England, 1976.

#### **BOOKS:**

1. Cook W.R.: "*Equine Genetics and Selection Procedures*". Veterinary Editor. Texas: Equine Research Publications, 1978.
2. Cook, W.R.: "*Specifications for Speed in the Racehorse; the Airflow Factors*". Russell Meerdink, Inc., Menasha, WI, 1989.
3. Cook, W.R. and Strasser, H "*Metal in the Mouth: The Abusive Effects of Bitted Bridles*." Sabine Kells, Qualicum Beach, BC Canada, 2003
4. Strasser, H and Cook, W.R. "*Eisen im Pferdemaul*" Knirsch-Verlag, Germany, 2003

#### **VIDEOTAPES:**

1. Cook, W.R.: "*Selecting racehorses using the airflow factors*." Russell Meerdink, Inc., Menasha, WI, 1993.
2. Cook W.R. and Wieneke F.: "Eisen weg von Huf und Gebits" ("Banishing Iron from Hoof and Mouth") Prisma-Magazin/Norddeutscher Rundfunk, Hamburg, Germany 1999

#### **PUBLICATIONS IN LAY JOURNALS:**

1. Cook, W.R.: "The problem of tongue swallowing". *Veterinary Handbook*, London, England: Stud and Stable, 1963.
2. Cook, W.R.: "The cause of ear, nose and throat disease in the horse: A veterinary and zoological analysis". *The British Racehorse* 33:327-333, 1971.
3. Cook, W.R.: "Upper respiratory disease in the horse: Ear, nose, and throat". *Conference of Research Workers*, London: Horserace Betting Levy Board, 15-18, 1973.
4. Cook, W.R.: "Broken blood vessels in the racehorse: A veterinary research report". *British Racehorse* 38:80-83, 1976.
5. Cook, W.R.: "Immunodeficiency in the Arab foal". *Arab Horse Society News*, Spring, 1976.
6. Cook, W.R.: "Weeding the genetic garden". *Equus*, July, 1979.

7. Cook, W.R.: "Pharyngitis". Ed: Maryjean Wall. *The Horseman's Journal*, January, 1977.
8. Cook, W.R.: "Born to be Wild". *Equus*, 39, 26-30, 1979.
9. Cook, W.R.: "Ban Lasix and find cause of bleeding." *Thoroughbred Times*, 6:18,1990.
10. Cook, W.R.: "Don't abandon the facts." *Thoroughbred Times* 9: #14 April 2,1993.
11. Cook, W.R.: "Breeders should worry." *Thoroughbred Times*, 8: #31,p.19, July 31, 1992.
12. Cook, W.R.: "There are times treatment and prevention are inappropriate." *Thoroughbred Times*, September, 1993.
13. Cook, W.R., Kirk, N.W. and Telford, K.: "Inbreeding produces loss of vigor." *Thoroughbred Times*, p. 18, January 31, 1994.
14. Cook, W.R., "Another view on bleeding; asphyxia is suggested as the cause of pulmonary edema" *Thoroughbred Times*, p52, November 9, 1996
15. Cook, W.R: EIPH or AIPE? *Equine Athlete* March/April 1997, p23
16. Cook, W.R. and Kirk, N.W.,.The dark side of inbreeding *Computer-bred Journal*. July 1994, vol 1 #2
17. Cook, W.R. Breakdowns, bleeding and bits. *Thoroughbred Times*. 5 September, 1998, p 21
18. Cook, W.R.: An explanation for headshaking. *Thoroughbred Times*. 16 January, 1999,
19. Cook, W.R.: "The 'Spirit' bitless bridle: working with the equine's physiology for maximum performance.." *Horse America* (May, 1999, pp 2-8)
20. Cook, W.R.: "Asphyxia as the cause of bleeding and the bit as the cause of soft palate displacement" Guest Commentary *Thoroughbred Times*, November 27, 1999, pp18-19
21. Cook, W.R.: "The penalties of the bit and the benefits of bitlessness" *Pferdegesunde*, 2001
22. Cook, W.R.: "A theory to chew on." *Equus*, 285, p12, 2001
23. Cook, W.R.: "On talking horses: Barefoot and bit-free" *Natural Horse Magazine* 3, 19 & 43, 2001
24. Cook, W.R.: "Störungen der Atemwegsfunktion und andere durch das Gebiss verursachte Probleme des Pferdes – Ein Ansatz zur Problemlösung" (Publication in Germany; journal name to be discovered) 2001
25. Cook, W.R.: "Who Needs Bits?" *Natural Horse* 3, 44-47, 2001
26. Cook, W.R.: "Educated Owners and Barefoot Horses; an open letter to veterinarians" *Natural Horse*, Vol 3, Issue 7, p46 2001.
27. Cook, W.R.: "Alternative Drooling Research" *Dressage Today* November, 2001, p 15
28. Cook; W.R. : "Dr. Robert Cook on Frothy Salivation." *Natural Horse*, Vol 3, Issue

7, p41, 2001

29. Cook, W.R. : "On 'Mouth Irons', 'Hoof Cramps', and the Dawn of the Metal-free Horse." *Natural Horse*, Vol 4, Issue 4, 2002
30. Cook, W.R.: "Leave nothing but footprints ... and fertilizer" *Trail Blazer Magazine*, May 2002, P 13
31. Cook, W.R. : "No bit is best." *Thoroughbred Times*, October 19, 2002, p 18
32. Cook, W.R. : "Remove the shoes." *Thoroughbred Times*, September 6, 2003, p 18 Vol 19, Number 36.
33. Cook, W.R. : "Über 'Mauleisen', 'Hufkrampen' und des Beginn des metallfreien Pferdes" *Huf-Rolle. Issue #4, 2003*
34. Cook, W.R. : "Remove the Shoes" *Thoroughbred Times*, September 6, 2003. Vol 19, # 36,
35. Cook, W.R. : "Kompatibilität des überkreuzten Bitless Bridle." *Huf-Rolle. Ausgabe 5, Winter 2003/2004, 14-16*
36. Cook, W.R. : "Pathophysiology of bit control in the horse." *National Equine Student. Issue 5, January/February 2005, pp 11-15*
37. Cook, W.R. : 'Traditional (pain-based) bitless bridles. Available online at [www.aebm.org.au](http://www.aebm.org.au)
38. Cook: "Chewing, Staying Awake, and Horse Health." *The Horse's Hoof Issue 20, p19, Summer 2005*
39. Cook, W.R. : "Horsemanship: Art and Science.: *Western Farm, Ranch & Dairy Magazine. (Southwest/Rocky Mountain). Fall/Winter edition 2005-06, p43*

#### **Articles written by others about Cook's research:**

*Some aspects of Cook's research have attracted the notice of the national and international press. His research has, for example, been the subject of articles in a number of horse industry journals, "Science", the "New Scientist"; and a column in the Wall Street Journal. A partial listing of these articles is given below:*

1. Bishop, J.E.: From the horse's mouth comes a tip at the races. Lab Notes in *The Wall Street Journal*, November 25, 1988
2. Duke, J.: Researcher: Horses that breathe easier win races. *Lexington Herald-Leader*, December 4, 1988
3. Jennemann, J.: New measure for success. *Thoroughbred Times*, 4: p25-26, December 23, 1998
4. Biles, D.: Problems of the throat. *The Blood Horse*. December 24, 1988. p7342-7345
5. Engel D.: On the other hand, knowledge does exist. *The Thoroughbred Information Agency*, 14: #1, p6, January 27, 1989

6. Jones, W.E.: Dr Robert Cook on laryngeal neuropathy. *Equine Veterinary Data*, 10: #3. February 15, 1989
7. Jones W.E.: Laryngeal paralysis. *Equine Sports Medicine News*, 8: #4. April 1989
8. Anon: "Bleeding" may be caused by voice box paralysis. *The Chronicle of the Horse*. July 21, 1989
9. Kelley, L.J.: Quantifying the airflow factor: Does recurrent laryngeal neuropathy limit athletic performance? *Modern Horse Breeding*. 6: p13- July/August 1989
10. Holden, C.: Cleaning up Thoroughbred stock. *Science*, 252: p34
11. Jones, W.E.: Laryngeal paralysis. *Horse Care*. September/October 1989. p28-31
12. Freeman, K.: Through the generations: Researcher uses computer data base to gather Thoroughbred pedigrees for genetic analysis. *Equus*. December 1991
13. Ranson, C.: Breeders and the bleeders. *The Blood Horse*
14. Kirk, N.W.: Looking at 20 generations. *Thoroughbred Times*, 8: p15. July 10, 1992
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### **Appendix: Some contributions to equine health and welfare**

- First to adopt the equine ear nose and throat specialty
- An early pioneer in the development of endoscopy for the diagnosis of equine respiratory disease.
- First to publish an article on fiberoptic endoscopy in the horse.
- Showed that so-called “nose-bleeding” in racehorses originated from the lungs and not, as was previously supposed, from the nose or upper airway
- Carried out anatomical and physiological studies of the horse’s upper airway and demonstrated aspects of basic science in this region that had not previously been shown to have a fundamental relevance to clinical science. (e.g., the significance of the ostium intrapharyngium and its relation to asphyxia in the horse) .
- First to construct, in partnership with Dr Tompsett at the Royal College of Surgeons, two resin casts of the upper airways, paranasal sinuses and guttural pouches of the horse. One of these models is at the Royal Veterinary College, London and the other is in the Hunterian Museum at the Royal College of Surgeons
- First to provide a comprehensive description of the disease now known as guttural pouch mycosis and to suggest that otitis media is the cause.
- First to record fusion of the hyoid bone to the base of the skull as a sequel to guttural pouch mycosis and to explain how this led to pathological fractures of the petrous temporal bone.
- First to name and to provide a comprehensive description of the disease now known as progressive hematoma of the ethmoid region.
- Second to publish a description of the defect now known as epiglottal entrapment, and first to explain the anatomy of this defect, to develop a simple method for its surgical correction in the standing horse, and to explain why it is caused by the bit allowing air to enter the oral cavity.
- First to publish in the English scientific literature the observation that, in the horse, respiration and stride are synchronized at the gallop.
- First to propose that a disease previously named laryngeal hemiplegia should be renamed recurrent laryngeal neuropathy
- First to opine, on the basis of laryngeal physiology, that laryngeal surgery for the treatment of recurrent laryngeal neuropathy (RLN) in racehorses could never be anything more than an extremely poor compromise solution for this essentially incurable disease, and to emphasize the importance of prevention.
- First to marshal the evidence to show that the common form of RLN was an inherited disease.
- Emphasized that chronic bronchiolitis in the horse was caused by air pollution in the stable and that fresh air or vastly improved stable ventilation was the most important treatment.
- First to recommend listening at the horse’s nostril as a diagnostic method that has certain advantages over pulmonary auscultation with a stethoscope
- First to make a long term study of the soft palate and to observe that so-called soft palate paresis (dorsal displacement of the soft palate) is most commonly

caused by the bit

- Discovered the pharyngeal vault reflex in the dog
- One of the earliest contributors to the literature on radiology of the horse's head, and the first to describe a technique for cerebral angiography in the horse.
- First to describe diastasis fractures of the facial bones in the horse
- One of the first to report on cerebellar hypoplasia, an inherited disease of the brain in the Arab horse.
- First to draw attention to the dangers of administering broad spectrum antibiotics to the horse.
- First to suggest sternothyrohyoid myectomy as an alleviation for laryngo-palatal dislocation ('choking-up') and subsequently to withdraw that same recommendation
- First to study the problem of headshaking in the horse and to propose that a common cause of the problem is trigeminal neuralgia triggered by persistent bit pressure and pain
- One of the first veterinarians to edit a book on the genetics of the horse and to publish articles on breed structure and hereditary diseases of the horse.
- First veterinarian to show that there appeared to be a correlation between width of jaw and racing performance,
- First to develop a method for diagnosing and grading RLN on the basis of laryngeal palpation, and to conclude that RLN occurred, in varying degrees, in over 95% of Thoroughbreds and Standardbreds.
- First to propose that RLN was a major cause of poor performance in the racehorse and to publish a comprehensive description of the many other symptoms of this common and progressive neurological disease.
- First to produce evidence to refute his own previous hypothesis that EIPH is caused by a lower airway disease and to produce clinical, pathological and experimental evidence to support the hypothesis that EIPH is caused by any upper airway obstruction, the bit being a common cause of such an obstruction.
- First to draw attention to narrowness of the lower jaw (mandibular angusta) as a defect of conformation in the horse.
- First to publish a book and a videotape for the non-veterinarian, on the diseases of the horse's throat and the connection between soundness of wind and racing performance.
- First to promote the importance of sedating a horse for the endoscopic diagnosis of laryngeal hemiparesis.
- First to suggest a similarity between exercise-induced pulmonary hemorrhage in the horse and idiopathic primary pulmonary hemosiderosis in man, and to propose that the disease in man may also be caused by an upper airway obstruction.
- First to propose a simple treatment for guttural pouch tympany by means of a fenestration of the median septum and, subsequently, an even simpler treatment by means of an in-dwelling catheter.
- First to develop transendoscopic electrosurgery for the treatment of a variety of diseases of the equine airway.

- First to publish a paper on respiration at exercise in the dromedary.
- First to propose that fractures at the base of the skull in young horses were caused by internal rather than external forces, i.e., by spasm of the ventral straight muscles of the neck when a horse rears.
- Discovered the thoraco-laryngeal reflex in the horse, and developed a method for measuring the latency of the reflex, so providing the first objective method for diagnosing and grading spinal and recurrent laryngeal neuropathy
- First to propose that a more accurate name for the syndrome currently known as exercise-induced pulmonary hemorrhage is asphyxia-induced pulmonary hemorrhage
- First to recognize the fundamental physiological contradiction that follows from the use of a bit in the mouth of an exercising horse
- First to propose that evasion of the bit in the horse is a common cause of laryngeal stridor and an important differential diagnosis for recurrent laryngeal neuropathy
- First to propose that evasion of the bit in the horse is a common cause of dorsal displacement of the soft palate at exercise and a contributing factor in the etiology of asphyxia-induced pulmonary hemorrhage
- First to describe the presence of bit-induced bone spurs on the bars of the horse's mouth
- First to propose a physiological explanation for why the chewing of gum maintains a driver's alertness and reduces the chance of a driver falling asleep at the wheel. A contribution to the prevention of sudden death.
- First to document that the syndrome 'aversion to the bit' comprised over 110 clinical signs of abnormal behavior in the exercising horse