

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Score</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Accumulation (Amount of tracheal mucus)	0	No secretion
	1	Single spots
	2	Multiple spots or thin intermittent secretion line
	3	Secretion <10% of tracheal surface or thin continuous secretion line
	4	Wide secretion line and/or mucus accumulation at flexure of trachea
	5	> half of tracheal lumen mucus-filled (discontinuously)
Viscosity	0	Physiological shining of the mucosa
	1	Serous, translucent, fluent
	2	Slowly running secretion, movable with airflow
	3	Highly viscous secretion, endoscopic trace stable, not moving with airflow
Swelling	0	None
	1	Mild swelling of tracheal bifurcation
	2	Moderate swelling of tracheal bifurcation, tracheal rings indistinctly visible
	3	Severe swelling of tracheal bifurcation and/or invisible tracheal rings
<i>Individual score (max. 10)</i>		

Additional File 2 (PDF): Scoring system used for endoscopic examination of the lower respiratory tract within the clinic as published by Fey and Venner [1]. Scores from 0-5 for the accumulation of mucus were partly adapted from Gerber et al. [2].

References Additional File 2:

1. Fey K, Venner M. Krankheiten des unteren Respirationstraktes. In: Brehm W, Gehlen H, Ohnesorge B, Wehrend A, editors. Handbuch Pferdepraxis (4. Aufl.). Stuttgart: Enke; 2016; p. 356-416.
2. Gerber V, Lindberg Å, Berney C, Robinson NE. Airway mucus in recurrent airway obstruction- Short-term response to environmental challenge. J Vet Intern Med. 2004;18:92-7.