

Indications for Calslick's vulvoplasty

A. Corrective

Done to correct defects in perineal conformation involving abnormal declination of the labia or defects in mucosal apposition.

Defective vulval conformation can be:

1. Congenital
2. Acquired, which is due to:
 - ✓ Vulval stretching following repeated foalings
 - ✓ Injury to perineal tissue
 - ✓ Poor bodily condition (old, thin mares)
 - ✓ Previous Caslick procedure
 - ✓ Neoplasia such as perineal melanoma
 - ✓ Repair of vulva in some cases of perineal lacerations e.g. first-degree lacerations which involve only the mucosa of vestibule and skin of the dorsal commissure of the vulva. Sometimes it is used in “less severe” secondary vulval lacerations.



1. <http://foaled.co.nz/what-is-a-caslick/>

Older, multiparous mares are more commonly affected with pneumovagina. However, young mares that are in work and have little body fat and/or poor vulval conformation, can also develop pneumovagina.

B. Preventative

Sometimes this procedure is done in mares that have no obvious perineal abnormalities as a preventative measure.

Advantages - decreasing the length of the vulvar cleft → decreases entry of air and potential pathogens into the vagina in a mare otherwise susceptible to pneumovagina, fecal contamination, and associated complications.