



# Animal Working Group Newsletter

November 2023

## Equine Spinal Anatomy

- Horses have seven (7) cervical vertebrae, eighteen (18) thoracic, five (5) or six (6) lumbar, five (5) sacral and eighteen (18) coccygeal vertebrae
- The tall spinous processes of the first few thoracic vertebrae form the withers
- Arabian horses have five (5), rather than the common six (6) lumbar vertebrae
- The Arabian horses also will usually have seventeen (17) rather than eighteen (18) pairs of ribs
- Arabian horses may also have occipital atlanto-axial malformation where C1 is fused to the occiput
- If this anomaly exists they may demonstrate anywhere from no signs to mild incoordination or severe paralysis of both front or rear legs

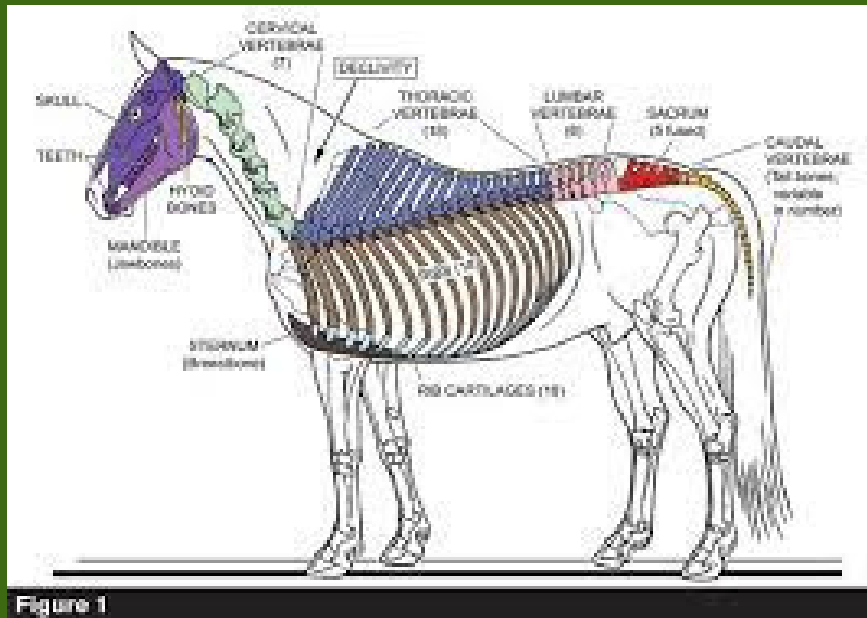


Figure 1

## AWG Ideas

- If you have any ideas for content or want to be more involved with the Animal Working Group, please reach out to Linda Hoffman [ceconvention@pennchiro.org](mailto:ceconvention@pennchiro.org) or Dr. Gray [drgraydc@gmail.com](mailto:drgraydc@gmail.com)

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