**Indications for Female Reproductive Surgeries**

**Caslicks Procedure**

The operation for pneumovagina in the mare is to prevent the involuntary aspiration of air into the vagina. Pneumovagina is caused by faulty closure of the lips of the vulva as a result of poor conformation or injury. Mares in which the lips of the vulva are tilted toward the anus are prone to vaginitis, cervicitis, metritis, and infertility due to contamination from material aspirated through the vulva. Old, thin, debilitated mares with sunken ani usually are more prone to pneumovagina. At least 80% of the vulval labia should be located ventral to the pelvic floor, and the vulval seal should be at least 2.5 cm deep and resistant to parting. In addition, the labia should be at an angle of at least 80° or nearly perpendicular to the horizontal. Breeding or foaling injuries may also result in pneumovagina because the skin and mucosa of the labia become misshapen, resulting in a faulty seal. Some mares, especially in racing, may aspirate air even though they have good vulvar conformation, whereas others may have overlapping vulvar lips with relatively good conformation. These mares are also candidates for Caslick’s operation. This operation is performed in combination with other surgery of the mare’s perineum, such as repair of first-, second-, and third-degree perineal lacerations

**Urethroplasty**

This reconstructive technique is indicated for treatment of urine pooling in the vagina, also known as *vesicovaginal* *reflux*. Urine pooling is more common in older, multiparous mares when sunken vaginas develop. The ventral floor of the vagina slopes cranioventrad, and uterine fluid and urine accumulate in the fornix of the vagina around the cervix. Vaginitis, cervicitis, endometritis, and temporary or permanent sterility may result. The aim of this operation is to promote caudal evacuation of urine and to prevent its pooling in the vagina.