Hormonal Therapy

McCue focused initially on a study out of Kentucky in which researchers examined survival rates and postoperative complications following caesarean section of mares with dystocia. In a retrospective review of 87 mares that underwent caesarean section for dystocia, 90% survived the procedure. Ninety-five percent of the mares that survived the operation survived the ensuing pregnancy. McCue noted that these findings suggest that there is substantial improvement in the care of dystocic mares since the study was performed.

McCue reported that the length of labor in the normal mare averaged 17 minutes. Delay in Stage 2 labor for longer than 40 minutes is associated with an increase in foal mortality. McCue stressed the importance of early intervention to prevent complications.